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**City of Belton Awarded \$1.9 Million MARC Grant for North Scott Corridor Improvements**

**February 24, 2020 – BELTON, Mo.** – Belton City Public Works Director Greg Rokos announced today that the city has been awarded a \$1.92 million grant, in a competitive process, through the Mid-America Regional Council Surface Transportation Program (STP) for the complete rehabilitation of the North Scott Corridor.

The project involves the entire corridor; a two-mile stretch, from just north of Route 58 to just south of 155<sup>th</sup> Street, with funds used to pave streets, replace curbs and rehabilitate sidewalks. The corridor will be reconfigured from four lanes to two with a continuous left turn lane in the north half of the project, which also will provide for on-street bicycle lanes.

“Once the city receives the funds, it will be a quick-moving project,” said Rokos. “Money from this grant will not be available until 2023 so the designing and planning will be done, the project bid and ready to go. The work should complete in 2024.”

Rokos added that for both residents and North Scott Corridor businesses that serve them, the coming improvements will make access more walkable and bikeable, and will include preparations for bus shelters so that the city has the infrastructure in place to possibly add a bus route through this corridor.

The city is investing 20 percent of the project cost, a typical matching requirement of STP and other grants. Belton completed a North Scott Corridor plan study in late 2014, with community involvement, and adopted the North Scott Corridor Overlay District and Design Guidelines in late 2017. This grant for the rehabilitation of North Scott is the next step in facilitating the return of this once vibrant entranceway into Belton.

“Many of the legacy North Scott businesses have been waiting to invest in their businesses to see what the city will do to invest in this roadway,” said Jerry Weidenmann, of Weidenmann Inc., located on North Scott. “We know the critical importance of the professional appearance and contemporary functionality of this corridor that is the doorway to our companies and the gateway to all of Belton.”

"It's been a long time coming but with the work of the city's development services team including Planning & Building and Economic Development, along with Greg's leadership in securing this competitive grant, North Scott will soon again be the city's thriving business corridor and welcome to the rest of our city," added Belton Mayor Jeff Davis.