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Design Contract Approved for Hiawatha Streetscape Project

(KNZA)--The city of Hiawatha is moving forward with the third phase of downtown streetscape improvements.

The City Commission Monday evening approved a contract with BG Consultants, of Lawrence, for the design of the project at a lump sum fee of \$86,300.

The project will include improvements in the 800 block of Oregon and the remaining portion of the 500 block of Oregon. The improvements will include new sidewalks, lightning and planters similar to the first two phases of the project.

The total project is estimated at more than one-million dollars. The Kansas Department of Transportation will fund 80 percent of the construction cost or nearly \$751,000. The city will be responsible for the remaining 20 percent, plus the design cost and any utility line relocation or \$309,000.

The Commission also authorized BG Consultants to submit a preliminary engineering report and an application for funding to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and USDA Rural Development for the water improvement project. The city is looking at constructing a treatment plant to address the ongoing problem of high nitrate levels its water supply system.

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