

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND NOTICE TO
BIDDERS FOR POWER LINE RELOCATION PROJECT – BOONE
COUNTY RD. E-26**

BACKGROUND:

Boone County is widening a four-mile long section of County Road E-26 in Boone County. Ames Electric Services owns and maintains power poles along the eastern 1/2-mile of this project. These poles are part of the 161kV tie line between Ames and Alliant Energy. Electric Services has been directed by Boone County to relocate our poles to clear for the road project.

The poles owned by Ames are located on private property in an easement. Boone County will reimburse Ames for the pole relocation. In addition, it has obtained new easements to replace the current ones. Boone County has signed an agreement with Electric Services agreeing to this reimbursement.

Midland Power Cooperative is also attached to our poles. Midland has asked that the City include the relocation of its facilities in the scope of our work. Boone County will reimburse us for Midland's relocation costs as well.

This work was originally scheduled to be done earlier this fall, but delays in the reinstallation of the Unit 7 rotor made it impossible for the tie line to be taken out of service at that time to allow this work to proceed. It should be noted that this schedule assumes that the Unit 7 turbine will be back in service by the end of the year. Should Unit 7 turbine remain unavailable by December, this work may be delayed again. Staff will keep Boone County updated on our situation.

The estimated construction costs are:

Transmission (Ames)	Labor:	\$104,000
	Material:	\$ 62,000
Distribution (Midland)	Labor & Material:	\$ 48,000
Design	Ames Portion:	\$ 13,000
	Midland Portion:	\$ 3,000
Misc.		\$ 10,000
Total:		\$240,000

This work will be charged to the Overhead Transmission Line Relocation account until being reimbursed by Boone County.

Upon City Council approval, receipt of favorable bids, and the availability of Unit 7 turbine, this work would begin during the December to March timeframe.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the plans and specifications for the Electric Services Power Line Relocation Project – Boone County Rd. E-26. Set November 14, 2007, as the bid due date and November 27, 2007, as the date of hearing and award of contract.
2. Do not approve the plans and specifications at this time.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Relocation of this transmission line will enable Boone County to complete the widening of E-26. The proposed action is important to accomplish that goal, yet it also reserves the City's right to further delay this project if necessary to maintain an electric back-up supply for the City.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, approving the plans and specifications for the Electric Services Power Line Relocation Project – Boone County Rd. E-26; and setting November 14, 2007 as the bid due date and November 27, 2007 as the date of hearing and award of contract.