

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: 2007/08 WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS (WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT)**

**BACKGROUND:**

The annual Water System Improvements program provides for replacing water mains in areas that are experiencing rusting water problems. It also provides for installing larger distribution mains in areas that have a high concentration of 4-inch supply lines, transferring water services from 4-inch water mains in streets where larger water mains exist, and abandoning 4-inch water mains. Eliminating duplicate water mains, where possible, improves water flow and helps reduce rusty water. Installing larger distribution lines in areas that have a high concentration of 4-inch supply lines and less than desirable fire-fighting capacity (predominately in the older areas of the community) provides larger supply quantities in relation to the current and proposed land uses, in accordance with the Land Use Policy Plan.

This project entails placing a 12-inch water main along the west side of Manning Avenue from Lincoln Way to the old middle school, including transferring of services. This project will also place a 12-inch main from the old middle school to Mortensen Road on the west side of State Avenue. There will also be a main replacement on Lettie Street from State Avenue to Wilmouth Avenue and a connection will be made from State Avenue to Wilmouth Avenue on the south side of the old middle school. These projects were identified in the November 2005 Water Distribution System Study, completed by Stanley Consultants, which will loop the west pressure zone of the water distribution system. Staff has already secured easements from the Ames Community School District for this project. Coordination with Iowa State University will continue as the project moves forward.

Staff has completed plans and specifications with estimated construction costs of \$555,000. Engineering and construction administration costs are estimated at \$35,000. Another project budgeted from this program is the Water Service Transfer project awarded in the amount of \$99,421. This project is shown in the 2007/08 approved budget with financing in the amount of \$900,000 from Water Utility Fund. Remaining funds will be used for contingencies and potential, future projects may be identified at a later date.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the 2007/08 Water System Improvements (Water Main Replacement) by establishing May 21, 2008, as the date of letting and May 27, 2008, as the date for report of bids.
2. Reject the project.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

By approving the plans and specifications it will be possible to improve the reliability of water system and to improve the water quality of our citizens.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the 2007/08 Water System Improvements (Water Main Replacement) by establishing May 21, 2008, as the date of letting and May 27, 2008, as the date for report of bids.