

ITEM # 12
DATE: 08-12-08

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: PROCUREMENT OF AN INDUCTION SORTING SYSTEM FOR A NON-FERROUS METALS RECOVERY SYSTEM

BACKGROUND:

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has awarded the City of Ames a low-interest loan through their Solid Waste Alternatives Program for a non-ferrous recovery system. The City of Ames contracted with RRT Design & Construction for design engineering and construction management services to install a non-ferrous recovery system at the Resource Recovery Plant.

Working with City staff, RRT has identified three main components for an effective non-ferrous metals recovery system. These three components are an eddy current system, induction sorting system, and related conveyors. To maximize the number of bidders and the procurement of this system, these three components will be bid separately. RRT revised plans and specifications for the induction sorting system (ISS). The ISS is estimated to cost \$263,000. Funding for this non-ferrous recovery system project is in the amount of \$1,100,000.

Bids for procurement of an induction sorting system were previously received on Thursday, July 24, 2008, and reported to Council on July 29, 2008. One bid was received after the deadline and was returned, unopened, in accordance with the Code of Iowa. **This project is being reintroduced with a longer time frame for bidder review along with a formal process for bidders to submit exceptions taken with the proposal.** Council will have the option to approve those exceptions that may be submitted with the bids.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the revised plans and specifications for the procurement of an induction sorting system by establishing September 10, 2008, as the date of letting and September 23, 2008, as the date for report of bids.
2. Direct modifications to the plans and specifications.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Advantages of this project include reducing our carbon footprint, as well as a reduction in landfill use and cost. Modifications have been made to the bid package, as noted above, to increase bidder understanding of the project.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative 1, thereby approving the revised plans and specifications for the procurement of an induction sorting system by establishing September 10, 2008, as the date of letting and September 23, 2008, as the date for report of bids.