

## **COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: AMES POLICE SHOOTING RANGE PROJECT**

### **BACKGROUND:**

For many years the Police Department has operated and maintained a shooting range for police officer training and required firearms certification. The range is located off Dayton Road, just north of the railroad tracks. The proximity of the firing range has allowed officers to maintain skills in this critical area for minimal expense. For the last year, the range has been closed as the Department evaluated enhancements to ensure greater safety and security for those on or near the range.

After extensive review of the existing range, it was determined to change the line of fire, construct a new earthen berm, and re-orient the existing shed on the property. The new earthen berm will be 25-feet in height, which is 5-feet over the recommended police shooting range height identified in the National Rifle Association (NRA) Range Design Handbook. The design will also include a bid alternate for a 5-foot railroad tie sound barrier for the top of the berm.

Staff has completed plans and specifications with estimated construction costs of \$91,000, for improvements to the shooting range. Staff has also included an additional alternative for constructing a railroad tie sound barrier. This bid alternate is estimated at \$10,000.

This project is shown in the 2009/10 Capital Improvements Plan with financing in the amount of \$102,000 from Local Option Sales Tax.

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve plans and specifications for the Ames Police Shooting Range Project by establishing November 4, 2009, as the date of letting and November 10, 2009, as the date for report of bids.
2. Reject the project.

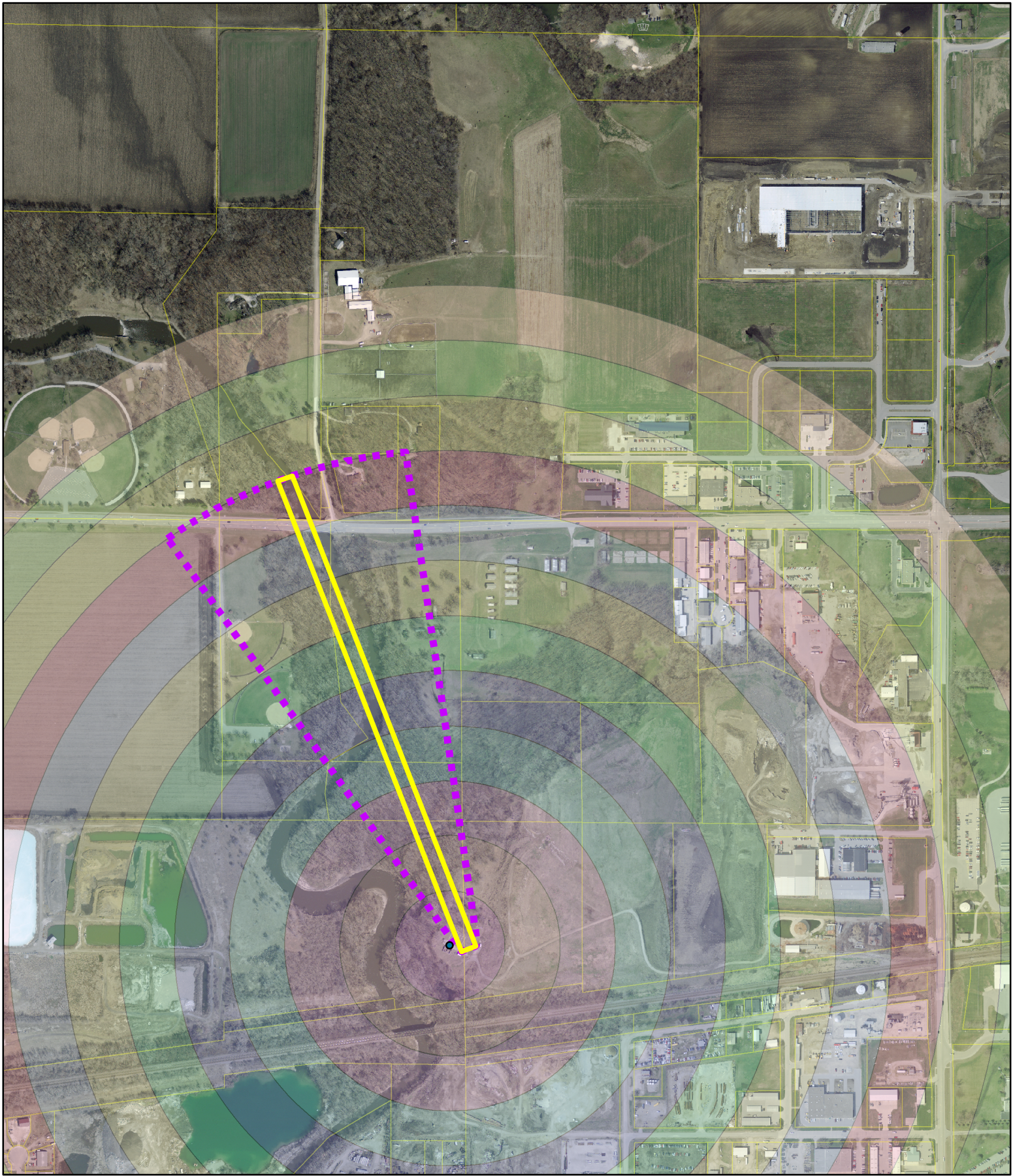
### **MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

By approving the project and establishing November 4, 2009, as the date of letting and November 10, 2009, as the date for report of bids, it will be possible for construction to take place during the fall and spring. While the range has been closed, Ames officers have traveled to a site in rural Story County for firearms training. The additional travel

has reduced the time available for training and increased both personnel and travel costs. In addition, the rural site has a number of use restrictions, reducing the opportunities for training.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving plans and specifications for the Ames Police Shooting Range Project by establishing November 4, 2009, as the date of letting and November 10, 2009, as the date for report of bids.





## Police Shooting Range - New Area

1 inch = 683.209243 feet

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|                        |     |      |
|------------------------|-----|------|
| <b>Shooting Area</b>   | 300 | 900  |
| Study Area             | 400 | 1000 |
| Straight Path          | 500 | 1100 |
| <b>Buffer Distance</b> | 600 | 1200 |
| 100                    | 700 |      |
| 200                    | 800 |      |