

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: VETERINARY MEDICINE (VET MED) SUBSTATION CAPACITOR BANK FOUNDATION INSTALLATION**

**BACKGROUND:**

This overall project is for the procurement and installation of two capacitor banks for the Vet Med Substation. This particular portion is for the installation of a new concrete foundation in the Vet Med Substation to support the capacitor banks. **On May 8, 2012, staff reported that the City did not receive any bids the first time the bidding document was issued for this project. As a result, Council directed staff to rebid the project and approved preliminary plans and specifications for the Vet Med Substation capacitor bank foundation installation.**

Bid documents were issued to twenty-two potential bidders. The bid was also advertised on the Current Bid Opportunities section of the Purchasing webpage and a Legal Notice was published in the Ames Tribune. It was also sent to two plan rooms.

**The bid due date was May 23, 2012, and again the City did not receive any bids. Several of the bidder's notified staff that due to their current workload they are unable to provide a bid on this project. It was also determined that the timing of the project coincides with the busy season of the majority of the contractors.**

**Staff has now revised the technical specifications, increased the bidders list, and revised the project schedule to permit construction to take place in July and August. The capacitor manufacturer has agreed to postpone delivery to September at no additional cost.**

The Engineer's estimate for this portion of the overall project is estimated at \$75,000. In 2010/11 the CIP was adjusted to include \$350,000 for the Vet Med Substation Voltage Support project. These funds were recently approved for carryover to the 2011/12 Fiscal Year. Approximately \$117,218 remains in the budget for this work.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. a. Accept report of no bids.
- b. Direct staff to rebid the project.
- c. Approve the preliminary plans and specifications for the reissuance of the Vet Med Substation capacitor bank foundation installation and set June 27, 2012, as the bid due date and July 10, 2012, as the date of hearing and award of contract.

2. Do not direct staff to rebid the project and delay the installation of the foundation.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

At the Vet Med Substation, there has been and will continue to be an increase of electrical load as both the ISU Veterinary Medicine campus and the Research Park continue to grow and expand. Installation of the capacitor banks at the Vet Med Substation will provide voltage support and add capacity to the system at a needed load center, improving electric service in that area.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.