

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: 2013/14 – 2015/16 BRIDGE REHABILITATION PROGRAM
(6TH STREET BRIDGE)**

BACKGROUND:

This Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) program provides funding for necessary repairs recommended by the Iowa Department of Transportation's (IDOT) biennial bridge inspections report.

In both 2010 and 2012, these bridge inspections both recommended replacement of the 6th Street Bridge over Squaw Creek due to the current condition. A feasibility study in 2009 also recommended replacement. The replacement of the bridge was placed in the CIP as a multi-year project to allow time for study, design, procurement of grants, and construction. A design alternatives study was completed and the style of bridge and aesthetic treatments were approved by City Council. The engineering phases of this project will next span multiple years to complete preliminary design, final design, and construction administration/inspection.

Two engineering firms submitted proposals for this work, and were evaluated according to the following criteria: Project Understanding, Design Team, Key Personnel, Previous Experience, Project Approach, Responsiveness, Ability to Perform Work, Proposed Project Design/Letting Schedule, and Estimated Contract Cost. Listed below is the ranking information based on this evaluation:

Proposal Ratings/Rankings	Overall Rank	Average Score	Estimated Fee
WHKS & Co.	1	91.75	\$161,800
Kirkham Michael	2	80.83	\$231,643

Staff next negotiated a contract with the highest ranked firm (which also submitted the lowest proposed cost), WHKS & Co. of Ames, Iowa. This consultant has a strong history of successfully designing projects for the City of Ames and coordinating with property owners. They are also the firm that handled the bridge inspections and completed the design alternatives study for this bridge. After negotiating the scope of the work (shown in table, below), a not-to-exceed fee of \$161,800 was established.

Staff believes that this project should also include engineering services for replacement of approximately 400 feet of 6th Street between the bridge and the Brookside Park

entrance. Iowa State University recently completed reconstruction of their portion of 6th Street up to the Brookside Park entrance, and the City's portion of the street also needs reconstruction. In addition, sidewalk and bike lane transitions also need to be constructed along the street as the bridge is replaced. Therefore, staff is recommending that this street work be designed and constructed along with the bridge project. The CIP that will be presented to Council in January will include this street reconstruction project.

This engineering contract also shows a contingency amount which will be used for any unexpected changes or delays to the project. The following table shows the upcoming years' fees for project development.

Fiscal Year	Phase	Fee
2013/14	Preliminary Engineering/Grant Applications	\$37,100
2014/15	Final Design	\$104,200
2015/16	Construction Services	\$12,500
	Contingency	\$8,000
Total		\$161,800

The CIP currently shows funding of \$40,000 in 2013/14, \$175,000 in 2014/15, and \$180,000 in 2015/16 for engineering and administration of the 6th Street Bridge and the E. Lincoln Way Bridge, bringing total funding to \$395,000. Of that amount, the 6th Street Bridge portion was estimated at \$290,000. After awarding this contract, this will leave \$128,200 available for City staff to provide construction administration and inspection services in 2015/16. The bridge construction is estimated at \$2,275,000 for the bridge and chosen aesthetics, and replacement of the 400 feet of 6th Street is estimated to cost \$300,000. These amounts will be used to update the 2014-2019 CIP.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the engineering services agreement for the 2013/14 – 2015/16 Bridge Rehabilitation Program (6th Street Bridge) with WHKS & Co. of Ames, Iowa, in an amount not to exceed \$161,800.
2. Direct staff to negotiate an engineering agreement with another consulting firm.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

In order to secure grant funding to reduce the amount of City funding needed to accomplish the 6th Street Bridge Replacement Project, it is important to move ahead with the preliminary design and grant application development phases. Based on staff's evaluation using the above criteria, WHKS & Co. will provide the best value to the City in designing this project.

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