

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: VET MED SUBSTATION FEEDERS EXTENSION – 1200 AMP SWITCHGEAR

BACKGROUND:

The expansion of the Vet Med Substation completed in FY 2010/11 provided additional substation capacity for growth in the Research Park south of Highway 30 and along South 16th Street. In order to provide capacity to these growing areas and to improve system reliability, feeder extensions are also needed to fully utilize the added substation capacity.

This project will add a new underground feeder south to the Research Park. This portion of the project is for the purchase of a 1200 Amp Switchgear. The Engineer’s estimate of the cost of this switchgear is \$20,000. It is necessary to specify and order this switchgear ahead of construction bidding due to the long lead time for this piece of equipment. Upon City Council approval and receipt of favorable bids, the switchgear will be ordered. In the near future, Council will also be asked to approve additional materials and approval of plans and specifications for the construction phase.

The approved FY2013/14 CIP for Electric Services includes \$300,000 for materials and construction of this project. To date the project budget has the following items encumbered:

\$300,000.00	Amount budgeted for project
<u>\$20,000.00</u>	Estimated cost for 1200 amp switchgear – this item (pending Council approval of plans and specifications for this agenda item)
\$280,000.00	Amount available to complete project (purchase of additional materials and construction phase)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve preliminary plans and specifications for the 1200 Amp Switchgear for the Vet Med Feeder Extension, and set January 29, 2014 as the bid due date and February 11, 2014 as the date of public hearing and award of contract.
2. Do not approve the plans and specifications at this time.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This project is necessary to extend feeder capacity from the Vet Med Substation to the Research Park. This will provide capacity for new load growth and improve reliability to the Research Park and surrounding areas. To meet the project timetable, the switchgear must be ordered in advance of scheduling the installation.

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