

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF PRELIMINARY PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS –  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FIBER OPTIC DEPLOYMENT**

**BACKGROUND:**

At the March 26, 2013 meeting, Council approved a 28E Intergovernmental Agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for the use of IDOT's Intelligent Transportation System network.

The IDOT installed an Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) network consisting of cameras, sensors, and dynamic message boards in the Ames area and I-35 corridor to assist in traffic operations and information dissemination in and around the Ames area. The City's access to the network through the 28E agreement provides low cost network expansion as well as access to data provided by the ITS.

Under the 28E Agreement, the Iowa Department of Transportation will:

- Provide access to the ITS Network Features for City use, including but not limited to, Police, Fire, Information Technology, and Public Works.
  - The ITS devices (e.g. cameras, sensors) are only for transportation and public safety applications. The use of the ITS devices for law enforcement purposes is prohibited.
- Provide, at no cost or obligation to the City, ten strands of dark fiber optic cable that the City will use to connect Water and Pollution Control, Fire Station 3 and the Animal Control facility to the existing City fiber optic infrastructure.
- Allow the City to install additional devices (e.g. cameras) on the ITS network at no cost or obligation to the City.

**This project is the connection to the dark fiber optic cable that the City will use to link Water and Pollution Control, Fire Station 3, Animal Control, and Iowa State University to the existing City fiber optic infrastructure at the Veterinary Medicine Electric Substation. Also within this project, Fire Station 2 will be connected to the City fiber optic infrastructure through the Ames Intermodal Facility.**

Olsson Associates of Lincoln, Nebraska was hired for analysis, design, drawing development, specification development, and providing detailed cost estimates for the fiber optic deployment.

**The engineers have now completed their design work. This request is for City Council to approve the preliminary plans and specifications for the project to expand the fiber optic deployment to Fire Station 2, Fire Station 3, Animal Control, Water and Pollution Control, and Iowa State University.**

Funding for the Information Technology Fiber Optic Deployment project will be from a larger pool of funding budgeted for City network infrastructure improvements and City network equipment replacement and improvements. The current cost estimate for the project is \$70,303.35.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the preliminary plans and specifications for the Information Technology Fiber Optic Deployment project and set September 10, 2014, as the bid due date and September 23, 2014, as the date for public hearing and award of contract.
2. Do not move forward with the project at this time.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

This project will provide for expansion of City network connectivity and greatly improve data and telephone service to several of the City's remote locations. Funding for the project will be provided from the current City Council adopted budget for network improvements.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the preliminary plans and specifications for the Information Technology Fiber Optic Deployment project and setting September 10, 2014, as the bid due date and September 23, 2014, as the date for public hearing and award of contract.