

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM EVALUATION – PLANNING AND DESIGN

BACKGROUND:

The ability of the sanitary sewer system to convey wastewater well into the future is dependent on the removal of the current large amount of infiltration and inflow (“I & I,” or I/I) in the system that occurs during rain events. In order to minimize the need for costly expansions to the City’s Water Pollution Control (WPC) facility, as well as to convey flows from new development as the City grows, the City must work to reduce the overall I/I in the system.

Veenstra & Kimm, Inc. (V&K) from West Des Moines, Iowa has been conducting an on-going study of the sanitary sewer system. This requires a comprehensive and systematic evaluation for identifying the defects that could contribute I/I across the entire, City-wide sanitary sewer system. It also involves prioritizing those defects and estimating rehabilitation costs so that repairs can be made as part of the Capital Improvements Plan. This Sanitary Sewer System Evaluation (SSSE) program generally consists of the following tasks: data collection, flow monitoring, sewer televising, smoke testing, manhole inspection, siphon inspection, and system modeling. Not only does the SSSE identify sources of I/I, it also identifies areas of aging infrastructure in need of repair to prevent unexpected failures and emergency repairs, as well as potential capacity issues that may develop over time.

This evaluation has been underway for several years. With over 90 percent of the data collection phase complete, it is evident that there are over \$25 million worth of immediate structural improvements needed in the sanitary sewer system. Future CIP projects for the sanitary sewer system will be based on the results of this evaluation. Work will include rehabilitation, such as the lining of existing mains or spray lining of existing structures, as well as complete removal and replacement of structures and sanitary sewer mains. These projects were shown in our CIP beginning in 2013/14. Funding will come from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) in the amount of \$3,270,000 for each year. Repayment of the SRF loans will be from revenues generated in the Sanitary Sewer Fund.

A SRF Planning and Design Loan for \$375,000 was approved by Council at the March 25, 2014 Council meeting. This loan was secured in order to hire a consultant(s) to help determine the best action plan for implementation of system repairs, as well as for design services for the first two years of the projects.

Proposals for this work were received from four engineering firms, 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 rating information based on this evaluation:

Sanitary Sewer System Written Evaluation Proposal Ratings			
Firm	Score/100	Rank	Estimated Fee
Veenstra & Kimm	87	1	\$375,000
WHKS & Co.	79	2	\$375,000
Stanley Consultants	79	2	\$317,447
Bolton & Menk	75	4	\$375,000

Staff followed up the original RFP request with a set of supplemental questions. Those questions stemmed from two of the firms' proposition that the City consider multiple consultants to accomplish the work. All of the firms answered the questions. Veenstra & Kimm and WHKS provided additional information that determined both firms could and would work well together to provide the best service to the City at the best price.

Staff has negotiated a contract with the highest rated firm, Veenstra & Kimm, Inc. (V&K) from West Des Moines, Iowa. As a part of the selection, Staff asked V&K to work with WHKS & Co. of Mason City, Iowa to become a part of the team. Staff directed the consultants to determine scope of services for each firm. The consultants have agreed that V&K will function in a prime consultant role with WHKS providing support in a sub-consultant role. **V&K brings much value to the team since they were the consultant involved in the original (on-going) study. Staff felt that WHKS would bring a fresh perspective on the immense data collected during the study to ensure that the data evaluation, prioritization and rehabilitation techniques were on target. WHKS would also bring excellent recent project experience by having completed nearly the exact same types of projects and evaluations for the City of Mason City and the City of Rochester, Minnesota with great success. Both V&K and WHKS have strong histories of successfully completing sanitary sewer system evaluations, as well as a wealth of knowledge in rehabilitation techniques. They are familiar with the contractors that perform those types of rehabilitation, in addition to having an intimate knowledge of the SRF process.**

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the engineering services agreement for the Sanitary Sewer System Evaluation Planning and Design with Veenstra & Kimm, Inc. from West Des Moines, Iowa, in an amount not to exceed \$375,000.
2. Direct staff to negotiate an engineering agreement with another consulting firm(s).
3. Direct staff to make changes to the project.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Entering into the Engineering Services Agreement for the SRF Planning & Design agreement is the next step in the process of accomplishing the first two years of the prioritized repairs needed in our sanitary sewer system.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the engineering services agreement for the Sanitary Sewer System Evaluation Planning and Design with Veenstra & Kimm, Inc. from West Des Moines, Iowa, in an amount not to exceed \$375,000.