

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2014/15 TRAFFIC SIGNAL PROGRAM (UNION DR. & LINCOLN WAY)

BACKGROUND:

The Traffic Signal Program provides for replacing older traffic signals by constructing new traffic signals in the City. This program results in improved visibility, reliability, and signal aesthetics.

Although recent advances in technology have extended the normal, useful life for traffic signal installations well past the previously expected 25 years, some of the older generation traffic signals still in use exceed their functional age. Components at those installations (including conduits, wiring, signal heads, and poles) need to be completely replaced. In addition, this program provides for necessary upgrades to the traffic signal system as technology evolves. In recent years, the traffic signal replacements have included radar detection systems instead of the typical in-pavement loop detection system that frequently was the point of vehicle detection failure. Another advantage of the radar detection system is that it also detects bicycles.

On December 3, 2014, bids for this project were received as follows:

<i>Bidder</i>	<i>Base Bid</i>	<i>Alternates</i>	<i>Base + Alternates</i>
Voltmer, Inc.	\$211,251.64	\$22,926.00	\$234,177.64
KWS, Inc.	\$242,051.25	\$21,300.00	\$263,351.25
Iowa Signal Inc.	\$242,962.95	\$20,634.75	\$263,597.70

With the low bid of \$211,252 along with estimated engineering and construction administration costs of \$14,500, **total estimated costs are \$225,752**. The Capital Improvements Plan includes Road Use Tax Fund funding of \$200,000 for this project. After a detailed review of the bid the items, it was determined that the higher costs were related to the additional ADA equipment, sidewalk ramps, and traffic control requirements seen on this project. Therefore, the remaining balance of \$25,752 will come from unobligated funds from the annual Sidewalk Safety Program.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1 a. Accept the report of bids for the 2014/15 Traffic Signal Program (Union Drive & Lincoln Way).
- b. Approve the final plans and specifications for this project.
- c. Award the 2014/15 Traffic Signal Program (Union Drive & Lincoln Way) to Voltmer, Inc., of Decorah, Iowa, in the amount of \$211,251.64.

2. Do not proceed with the project at this time.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Even though this bid is significantly over the projected cost, the project cannot be constructed without including the required ADA components. Funding to make up the shortfall is available from a related City program; and awarding this project now should allow the project to be completed prior to the start of Iowa State's fall semester.

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