

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2014/15 TRAFFIC SIGNAL PROGRAM (13TH ST. & STANGE RD.)

BACKGROUND:

The Traffic Signal Program provides for replacing older traffic signals in the City by constructing new traffic signals. 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 now 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 former, 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.

The City's Capital Improvements Plan includes \$50,000 from the Road Use Tax Fund for one leg of this intersection in partnership with Iowa State University. ISU has programmed its portion of funding in the amount of \$187,500, bringing total program funding to \$237,500.

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>
KWS, Inc.	\$266,072.75	\$26,300.00	\$292,372.75
Voltmer, Inc.	\$272,590.79	\$29,515.00	\$302,105.79
Iowa Signal Inc.	\$289,793.92	\$26,226.75	\$316,020.67

With the low bid of \$266,073 along with estimated engineering and construction administration costs of \$16,200, **total estimated costs are \$282,273**. After a detailed review of the bid items, it was determined that the higher costs were largely related to the additional ADA equipment, sidewalk ramps, and traffic control requirements seen on this project.

With these elements included, the remaining funding needed to proceed with this signal replacement is \$44,773. Iowa State University has agreed to provide \$33,580 of this amount, and the remainder of \$11,193 will come from unobligated funds in the City's annual Sidewalk Safety Program.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1 a. Accept the report of bids for the 2014/15 Traffic Signal Program (13th Street & Stange Road).
 - b. Approve the final plans and specifications for this project.
 - c. Award the 2014/15 Traffic Signal Program (13th Street & Stange Road) to KWS, Inc., of Cedar Falls, Iowa, in the amount of \$266,072.75.
2. Do not proceed with the project at this time.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Although over budget, competitive bidding has demonstrated that this project cannot be completed without additional funds. The project cannot be carried out without the ADA equipment and modified ramps. ISU is committed to shouldering the largest share of the cost increase. Awarding this project now should allow the project to be completed by August 3, 2015, prior to the start of ISU's fall semester.

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