

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2014/15 RIGHT-OF-WAY RESTORATION CONTRACT

BACKGROUND:

In recent years, Public Works staff has observed and analyzed restoration of the right-of-way areas associated with various Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) projects. Some areas have been restored with sod, while other areas have been restored using seed or dormant seed. Success using these types of restoration is volatile and appears to depend on the weather at the time of installation. In areas where vegetation is not anticipated to be successful, other forms of restoration have been used, such as pervious pavement and colored or standard concrete.

In the past, having restoration as a subcontract in each of the CIP contracts means restoration is ultimately the responsibility of each prime contractor. The prime contractor's focus is on getting the primary work completed, such as paving or water mains; finishing the project with an exceptional level of restoration frequently becomes a lesser priority. To better address the restoration of rights-of-way, a new program was approved in the 2014/15 CIP. This new program will enable better restoration through a separate contract with a contractor that is specialized in vegetation establishment.

In August 2014, a restoration project was put out for bid. However, no bids were received. Staff subsequently reached out to potential contractors in the area to gain their input and encourage bidding on this new contract. It was determined that the lack of bids was mostly due to the timing of the bidding versus contractors' ability to do the work. The local contractors were already booked with other work and the out of town contractors felt it would not have been cost effective for them to continue to come to Ames to meet the specification requirements. Staff has attempted to address those concerns, as well as to be in contact with other potential contractors to keep them informed as to this project's bid date.

This project includes rebidding the previous project locations along with new locations that were intended to be bid in a separate contract. Project locations are shown on the next page, although other areas may be added by change order, if necessary.

| STREET | FROM: | TO: | CIP PROJECT |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|--|
| Ontario Street | Illinois | Indiana | 2010/11 CyRide (Resod North Side of Ontario) |
| 5014 Ontario | | | 2010/11 CyRide (Resod) |
| SE 5th Street | South Duff | Walmart | 2012/13 Concrete Pavement Improvements |
| Jax Frontage Road | | | |
| Carroll | 9th | 13th | 2012/13 Asphalt Resurfacing/Seal Coat Removal |
| Knapp | Welch | Lynn | 2013/14 Concrete Pavement Improvements |
| Lynn | Knapp | Storm | |
| N 2nd Street | N Elm | End of Street | 2013/14 Concrete Pavement Improvements |
| Garden Road | South Duff | End of Street | 2013/14 CyRide Route Pavement Improvements |
| Garnet Road | Garden | Jewel | |
| Viola Mae | Ken Maril | Garden | |
| South Franklin | Tripp | Coy | 2013/14 Seal Coat Pavement Improvements |
| Ashmore Dr, Ashmore Ct, Ashmore Cir | | | |
| Lincoln Way | Alcott | Hickory | 2013/14 Arterial Street Pavement Improvements |
| 10th Street | Grand | Duff | 2013/14 Water Service Transfer |
| Mortensen Road | South Dakota | Dotson | 2014/15 Mortensen Road Widening |
| Lincoln Way | Thackeray Ave | Hickory Dr | 2014/15 Arterial Street Pavement Improvements |
| West St | Sheldon Ave | Hillcrest | 2014/15 Collector Street Pavement Improvements |
| Woodland Ave | West St | Forest Glen | |
| Ridgewood Ave | 9th St | 13th St | 2014/15 Concrete Pavement Improvements |
| 9th St | Brookridge Ave | Northwestern Ave | |
| Hayward Ave | Lincoln Way | Hunt St | 2014/15 Concrete Pavement Improvements |
| Ferndale Ave | 24th St | 30th St | 2014/15 Asphalt Street Reconstruction Program |
| South 4th Street | | | 2014/15 Shared Use Path Maintenance |
| Coy Street | | | 2014/15 Water System Improvements |
| 13th & Stange | | | 2014/15 Traffic Signal Program |
| Lincoln Way & Union | | | 2014/15 Traffic Signal Program |

The costs associated with this project are estimated to include:

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Engineering and Construction Administration (Estimated) | \$ 30,000 |
| Restoration work (Wheeler) | \$ 5,481 |
| Restoration work (Estimated, This Project) | \$ 168,521 |
| Total Estimated Costs | \$ 204,002 |

The project funding for 2014/15 is summarized below:

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Road Use Tax | \$ 120,000 |
| Water Utility Fund | \$ 40,000 |
| Sanitary Sewer Utility | \$ 40,000 |
| 12/13 GO Bond Savings from Asphalt Resurf/Seal Coat Recon. | \$ 7,000 |
| 13/14 GO Bond Savings from Cy Ride Route Pavement Improv. | <u>\$ 9,400</u> |
| Total Funding | \$ 216,400 |

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the 2014/15 Right-of-Way Restoration Contract #1 (Various Locations) by establishing April 8, 2015, as the date of letting and April 14, 2015, as the date for report of bids.
2. Direct staff to revise the project.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

With no bids received last time, staff solicited feedback from potential contractors. The project has now been repackaged to include more areas of restoration, essentially doubling the original contract. Given this change and the input on when to most effectively bid the project, staff is confident that a successful bidder will be obtained.

Proceeding with this project will make it possible to begin restoration efforts on projects currently being constructed. Delay of approval could postpone the final restoration until the spring of 2016 and force the roadway contracts to again utilize temporary stabilization, which increases the overall cost of those projects and delays the reestablishment of permanent greenscaping.

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