

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: SAFETY TRAINING AND RELATED SERVICES CONTRACT

BACKGROUND:

The City annually contracts with an outside firm for basic safety training, OSHA compliance, and regulatory consultation services for City departments. These services have been provided by the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities (IAMU) for the past eleven years.

The proposed renewal contract with IAMU calls for a continuation of the agreement during FY 2015/16 at a cost not to exceed \$127,600. This amount is lower than the \$134,000 included in the expiring agreement, which included a one-time \$18,000 expense for training and implementation of a new electronic safety data sheet system. The new amount reflects additional training and OSHA compliance activities planned for FY 2015/16 listed in the Comments section below. The \$127,600 amount was included in the Council's approved FY2015/16 Budget.

The new contract includes additional training requested by the Power Plant and other departments (natural gas safety and other topics), mock OSHA compliance inspections, a hearing program evaluation (last evaluated in 2009), and additional support for the City's AED program, for which location inventory tracking, equipment assistance and training is now centralized by Risk Management to support all departments.

<u>2015/16 not to exceed Contract</u>		<u>Comments</u>
Training, monthly & special topics	\$ 60,000	- Regular monthly OSHA/compliance safety training and department-specific classes. Same amount as expiring.
OSHA Compliance Support	\$ 56,000	- Same program, as in prior years.
	\$ 116,000	- Basic training and consultation program.
	\$ 3,600	- <u>Added</u> : monthly and special training classes, requested by Power Plant and other depts., incl. natural gas safety.
	\$ 3,100	- <u>Added</u> : re-evaluate Hearing program; conduct sound level tests at various depts.
	\$ 4,900	- <u>Added</u> : conduct mock OSHA inspections and follow-up on findings.

TOTAL	\$127,600	- FY2015/16 Not To Exceed Contract

IAMU's knowledge and expertise in supporting municipal utilities and public works departments is recognized throughout the state of Iowa. The City of Ames is one of many communities benefiting from their programs. Individual departments regularly consult with IAMU and take advantage of their expertise and familiarity with the City's safety programs.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the contract with IAMU to continue the City's program of safety and training professional services during FY2015/16 at a cost not to exceed \$127,600.
2. Reject the IAMU proposed contract and direct staff to seek proposals from other providers of these services.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities has demonstrated its expertise and has leveraged its firsthand knowledge of City operations over the past eleven years by providing services that enhance the safety and well-being of City employees. Their trainers and consultants help ensure that the City stays current with industry practices and regulations. The planned FY2015/16 services are an integral part of our Risk Management program aimed at reducing the number of injuries and controlling the cost of workers compensation claims.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the renewal contract with the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities for professional services for safety compliance and training during FY 2015/16 at a cost not to exceed \$127,600.