

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2017/18 TRAFFIC SIGNAL PROGRAM (EAST 13TH STREET AND INTERSTATE 35 NORTHBOUND OFF-RAMP)

BACKGROUND:

On August 22, 2017, City Council approved the plans & specifications for 2017/18 Traffic Signal Program (E. 13th Street and Interstate 35 NB Off-Ramp). Setting the letting date on September 13, 2017, to receive bids. The project involves the installation of a new traffic signal at the northbound off-ramp of Interstate 35 at East 13th Street intersection. The project is funded equally by agreement between a grant from the Iowa DOT and the City. The Iowa DOT conducted the signal warrant analysis for this location.

WHKS (the City's engineering consultant) has worked with City and Iowa DOT District 1 to generate plans and specifications that met all technical requirements for this improvement. It is important to note that work on the interchange is on right-of-way under the jurisdiction of the Iowa DOT. A summary of the project funding is shown below:

On September 13, 2017, bids for the project were received as follows:

Bidder	Base Bid	Bid Alternate	Totals
<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$175,182.30	\$15,000.00	\$190,182.30
Voltmer, Inc.	\$183,273.84	\$18,729.00	\$202,002.84
K&W Electric, Inc.	\$197,450.00	\$20,000.00	\$217,450.00

Revenues		Expenses	
U-STEP	\$117,500	Design/Administration	\$21,100
Road Use Tax	\$117,500	Traffic Signal Poles	\$18,267
Total	\$235,000	Construction	\$183,274
		Total	\$222,641

Contingency Funds \$12,359 (%5.3)

If City Council awards the contract on September 26, 2017, the project will proceed immediately with an anticipated completion date before December 31, 2017.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Accept the report of bids for the 2017/18 Traffic Signal Program (E. 13th Street and Interstate 35 NB Off-Ramp), thereby also;
 - a. Approving the final plans and specifications for this project.

- b. Approving the base bid only and rejecting all bid alternate pricing.
- c. Awarding the project to Voltmer Inc. of Decorah, Iowa in the amount of \$183,273.84 (base bid only).

2. Reject the bids and direct staff to make modifications to the project

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The traffic study performed by the Iowa DOT found that there is significant peak hour congestion at the northbound off-ramp of Interstate 35 at the E. 13th Street exit such that a traffic signal is now warranted to control traffic. At times, it was found that traffic backs up onto the Interstate, which is a serious safety issue.

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