

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **2020/21 SOUTH DAYTON IMPROVEMENTS**

BACKGROUND:

The South Dayton Gateway area of Ames has seen increased congestion over the last several years. Development on South Dayton, South Bell Avenue, and SE 16th Street has contributed to this congestion. The completion of the northbound to westbound fly-over bridge at the Interstate 35 and US 30 interchange has made mitigating the congestion on South Dayton Avenue a priority.

In order to address this congestion, capacity improvements are needed at the SE 16th Street and South Dayton Avenue intersection as well as signaling the ramp terminals at the South Dayton Avenue and US Highway 30 interchange. **This contract involves the design of the project.**

Services will include a base survey, evaluation of construction techniques, area drainage analysis, preparation of plans and specifications, conducting at least one public informational meeting, notification and coordination with right of way users, and attendance at a pre-construction meeting. Also included will be plan development and all submittals required for coordination with Iowa DOT to meet local letting requirements, with an anticipated July 2021 letting for construction in 2022.

Proposals for this work were received from seven engineering firms and were evaluated according to the following criteria: Project Understanding / Analysis of Conceptual Design, Design Team, Previous Experience, Availability to Perform Work, and Estimated Contract Cost. Listed below is the ranking information based on this evaluation:

Consultant	Avg. Rank	Est. Fee
WHKS	1	\$ 86,100
Shive Hattery	2	\$ 96,500
JEO	3	\$ 74,330
Snyder Associates	4	\$ 75,500
Bolton & Menk	5	\$ 89,679
SEH	6	\$ 102,900
CGA	7	\$ 110,000

Given the above rankings, Staff has negotiated a contract with the highest-ranked firm, WHKS & Co., of Ames, Iowa.

The engineering, construction administration, and construction budget for this project is currently programmed with \$700,000 in G.O. Bonds and \$400,000 in U-STEP Grant Funds for a total of \$1,100,000. (The current CIP allocates \$132,000 for engineering services).

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the engineering services agreement for the 2020/21 South Dayton Improvements project with WHKS & Co., of Ames, Iowa, in an amount not to exceed \$86,100.
2. Direct staff to negotiate an engineering agreement with another consulting firm.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Based on staff's evaluation using the above criteria, WHKS & Co. will provide the best value to the City in designing this project.

Therefore, the City Manager recommends that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.