

ITEM #: 17
 DATE: 05-09-23
 DEPT: W&PC

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: ADA HAYDEN HERITAGE PARK WATER QUALITY MONITORING

BACKGROUND:

The lakes at Ada Hayden Heritage Park are used recreationally for fishing and boating, and act as an aquifer recharge source for the Ames Water Plant in times of extreme drought. Staff has included a schedule for routine water quality monitoring in the Capital Improvements Plan that looks at the lakes' health every five to seven years. In-depth monitoring of the lakes was last performed during the summers of 2017 and 2018.

On March 21, 2023, a request for proposals (RFP) for professional services was issued for Water Quality Monitoring at Ada Hayden Heritage Park to be performed during the summer months in calendar years 2023 and 2024. Firms were asked to submit their fee proposals separate from their qualification-based proposals to allow staff to make a selection based primarily on the firms' qualifications for the project. One proposal was received in response to the RFP. That proposal included the baseline monitoring requested by staff, and also offered additional monitoring for Chlorophyll *a* which is typical of lake water quality studies.

After thorough review of the proposal, staff determined that the State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) was qualified to conduct the study. The fees proposed, while higher than the 2017/2018 monitoring event, are in line with fees from earlier monitoring events. The fee proposal from SHL is shown below.

	Base Proposal	Alternate Proposal	Total Fee
State Hygienic Laboratory	\$77,535	\$2,337	\$79,872

Staff has worked with the State Hygienic Laboratory before for analysis related to drinking water, wastewater, and a previous study of the Ada Hayden water quality. SHL conducted the 2017/2018 study and provided informative, professional reports of the water quality at Ada Hayden. Staff is confident that the State Hygienic Laboratory will again provide a high-quality final report that can be compared to prior testing results as well as be useful for future planning purposes. Staff recommends inclusion of SHL's optional proposal to include Chlorophyll *a* for a total study expense of \$79,872.

The project is included in FY 23/24 and FY 24/25 Capital Improvements Plan at a total of \$46,000. **Additional funding is available from a planned remote site solar feasibility study (\$25,000) that has been replaced by the Electric Department's solar study; and from savings in the Distribution System Monitoring Network project (\$10,000).** The resulting available budget for the Ada Hayden monitoring work is as shown below.

Funding Sources:

FY 23/24 CIP	\$ 23,000
FY 24/25 CIP	23,000
Remote Site Solar Feasibility Study (savings)	25,000
<u>Distribution Monitoring Project (savings)</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Total Funds Available	\$ 81,000

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award a contract for water quality monitoring services at Ada Hayden Heritage Park to the State Hygienic Laboratory of Coralville, Iowa, in the amount of \$79,872.
2. Do not award a contract at this time.

CITY MANAGER’S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The lakes at Ada Hayden Heritage Park are identified in the Ames Water Treatment Plant’s Drought Management Plan as a source of replenishment for the Ames aquifer and are used by the community for recreation. The long-range capital budgeting plan for the Water Utility includes monitoring of the lakes’ health every 5-7 years. Staff has solicited proposals for the work and the proposal received from the State Hygienic Laboratory was determined to meet staff’s expectations. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as described above.