

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **DESIGN OF WEST LINCOLN WAY INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS
(DOTSON DRIVE/LINCOLN WAY)**

BACKGROUND:

This project is for constructing turn lanes and installing traffic signals at the Dotson Drive/Lincoln Way intersection. Increased traffic flow from this subdivision necessitates left-turn lanes at the Lincoln Way approaches to the Dotson Drive intersection to accommodate heavy turning movements. Additional turn lanes are also anticipated for left-turning movements northbound from Dotson Avenue onto Lincoln Way. The increased traffic will also warrant the installation of new traffic signals at the Dotson Drive/Lincoln Way intersection. Turn lanes on Lincoln Way will mitigate left-turning, rear-end, and right-angle traffic accidents at this site. This improvement will also support traffic coordination along Lincoln Way. An earlier traffic impact report for South Fork Subdivision justified these improvements. The existing development agreement for South Fork required the developer and the City to share equally in the construction costs of these improvements when intersection level of service fell below Level of Service (LOS) C, which has now occurred.

Proposals for this design work were received from nine engineering firms, and were evaluated according to the following criteria: Project Understanding, Design Team, Key Personnel, Previous Experience, Project Approach, Responsiveness, Ability to Perform Work, Proposed Project Design/Letting Schedule, and Estimated Contract Cost. Listed below is the rating information based on this evaluation:

	Rank	Estimated Fee
Benesch	2	\$86,000
Bolton & Menk	1	\$76,000
CDA	5	\$85,070
CGA	4	\$78,650
FOTH	3	\$87,000
HDR	7	\$142,000
HR Green	7	\$110,714
Snyder	7	\$142,200
WHKS	5	\$93,950

Staff has negotiated a contract with the highest rated firm, Bolton & Menk, Inc. of Ames. This consultant has a history of successful traffic analysis in this area of Ames, and their assigned project manager is strong with traffic designs and public relations.

The City has applied for grant funding through the State's Traffic Safety Improvement Program. Final funding decisions will be received this fall, and grant funding will be available in July 2012. In order to complete the construction when traffic counts are diminished during Iowa State University's summer session, construction is anticipated during spring/summer 2013.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the engineering services agreement for the West Lincoln Way Intersection Improvements project with Bolton & Menk, Inc. from Ames, Iowa, in an amount not to exceed \$76,000.
2. Direct staff to negotiate an engineering agreement with one of the other consulting firms.
3. Direct staff to make changes to the project.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

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

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the engineering services agreement for the West Lincoln Way Intersection Improvements project with Bolton & Menk, Inc. from Ames, Iowa, in an amount not to exceed \$76,000.