

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: AMES SOUTHEAST ENTRYWAY PROJECT

BACKGROUND:

This project is a continued partnership between the City of Ames and the South Ames Business Neighborhood (SABN) to complete improvement features to the Southeast Entryway including installation of light columns and planting of trees, native plants and flowers. A portion of the Southeast Entryway has already been improved with grading and plantings at the intersection of Dayton Avenue and S.E. 16th Street, extending up to the Dayton Avenue overpass over U.S. Highway 30.

On December 16, 2008, Council approved an Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT) funding agreement for the project. On December 16, 2010, a public meeting was held to provide project specific information and to receive feedback regarding the proposed project concepts, and from that feedback, a plan was developed. On July 12, 2011, City Council authorized staff to negotiate a sole source contract with RDG Dahlquist Art Studio for fabrication and installation of lighted sculptures for the Ames Southeast Entryway Project. The Iowa DOT also approved this firm as the sole source provider for fabrication and installation of the lighted sculptural columns. RDG Dahlquist Art Studio has been involved with initial concepts, public input, and cost estimating for the project as a sub-consultant on the Engineering Services Contract for the design of the project.

RDG Dahlquist Art Studio has submitted a proposal for the fabrication and installation of 12 sculptural light columns and two pedestrian scale sculptural light columns in the amount of \$555,495, as shown on Exhibit I. The firm verified that this price was achieved by soliciting proposals from several fabricators and lighting contractors. Their proposals were based on the detail package of drawings, details, and lighting schedules they had previously prepared. Upon receiving these proposals, RDG Dahlquist Art Studio reviewed them to determine who could best provide each component, individually, as well as who might be able to provide an entire package. The most effective proposal was from a company that specializes in custom lighting fabrications and was able to provide a complete package, including installation, by teaming with a local electrician. Providing a solution from a single resource seems to make the most sense in terms of coordination and follow-up. It is a company/team with the most comprehensive experience in these types of special structures and is represented by a local (Des Moines/Ames) presence.

Previously, the City Council inquired about utilizing solar energy as an alternate energy source to light the sculptures. An analysis of this option revealed that for this application

a) it would not be cost effective, b) it would not provide enough usable surface area on the columns, and c) it would detract from the artist's work.

This contract also includes an alternate that would add two more sculptural light columns for an additional \$69,500. This alternate was added if favorable bids are received on the total project and money would be available. If it is decided to move forward with the alternate, it will need to be approved by City Council at a later date.

This project is estimated to be bid in January 2012 through the Iowa DOT with construction to be completed in summer 2012. Currently, Snyder and Associates is working on the plans for the project that include the plantings, footings, and other associated work including the acquisition of easements needed for the project.

In the Capital Improvements Plan, Council approved the use of City funds in the amount of \$247,000 (\$148,000 from property owner assessments and \$99,000 from Local Option Sales Tax funds), private funding in the amount of \$46,000 (from the previous project). These sources more than cover the 20 percent local match needed for the \$683,000 state-wide Transportation Enhancement grant previously awarded to the City. It is anticipated that the City will also receive a \$30,000 planting grant, although this grant is not necessary for the local match as that is already exceeded. **The total available revenue for the project is \$1,006,000 which covers the estimated expenses for this project as shown on the last attachment.**

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the sole source contract with RDG Dahlquist Art Studio for fabrication and installation of lighted sculptures for the Ames Southeast Entryway Project in the amount of \$555,495.
2. Direct staff to pursue other options.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Lighted sculptural columns are a key component of the Southeast Entryway Project that will create a stronger sense of arrival in Ames. By authorizing this agreement, the entryway project can move forward to meet the January 2012 Iowa DOT letting date with completion of the project during the 2012 construction season.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the sole source contract with RDG Dahlquist Art Studio for fabrication and installation of lighted sculptures for the Ames Southeast Entryway Project in the amount of \$555,495.

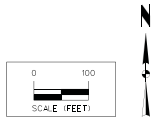
ATTACHMENT I



AMES SOUTHEAST ENTRYWAY CONCEPT PLAN



FEBRUARY 10, 2011



ATTACHMENT II





**SOUTHEAST ENTRYWAY PROJECT
AMES, IOWA**

July 12, 2011

Engineer's Order of Magnitude for Probable Construction Cost

ITEM	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT \$	TOTAL
DEMOLITION				
Tree Transplant	1	LS	\$3,000	\$3,000
Fence	1	LS	\$5,000	\$5,000
			TOTAL	\$8,000
UTILITIES				
Electrical service and line to footings	1	LS	\$36,000	\$36,000
			TOTAL	\$36,000
LANDSCAPING				
Overstory Tree	66	EA	\$300	\$19,800
Prairie	5	AC	\$3,500	\$17,500
Chain Link Fence (6' ht.)	1800	LF	\$16	\$28,800
			TOTAL	\$66,100
FOOTING				
PCC footing for sculptural tower	14	EA	\$6,000	\$84,000
Footing for intersection light candles	2	EA	\$3,000	\$6,000
			TOTAL	\$90,000
RDG Dahlquist Art Studio - SCULPTURAL ART FEATURES				
Sculptural Towers	12	EA	\$41,000	\$492,000
- Fully illuminated				
- Installed on foundation/base provided above				
- All power brought to each light tower location				
Lighting Controller	1	LS	\$10,200	\$10,200
Data Cabling	12	EA	\$2,135	\$25,620
Light Candles at Intersection	2	EA	\$13,500	\$27,000
			TOTAL	\$554,820
CONSTRUCTION				
Construction Staking	1	LS	\$5,000	\$5,000
Mobilization	1	LS	\$20,000	\$20,000
			TOTAL	\$25,000
			SUB TOTAL	\$779,920
			PROJECT CONTINGENCIES	\$54,080
			DESIGN SERVICES	\$132,000
			CONSTRUCTION OBSERVATION	\$40,000
			PROJECT TOTAL	\$1,006,000

NOTE: EXCLUDED FROM THIS ESTIMATE ARE THE FOLLOWING

1. Regulatory agency permits / fees
2. Easement acquisition
3. Electric meter