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City Manager's Office

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TO: Mayor and Ames City Council

FROM: Steven L. Schainker, City Manager

DATE: February 10, 2012

SUBJECT: Extension of Sustainability Advisory Services Contract with ISU

On July 1, 2010, the City entered into a one year contract with Iowa State University to utilize the services of their full-time Director of Sustainability, Merry Rankin. According to this contract, the City contributes \$2,083.33 per month (\$25,000 annually) to the University towards the total cost of this position. In accordance with the City Council's sustainability goal, during the first year of the contract Merry provided leadership to the newly appointed Sustainability Task Force as the members developed electric consumption reduction recommendations for the community.

In October 2011, the contract was extended through January 2012 in order for the City Council to determine the next steps in accomplishing their sustainability goal. As you know, the objective established by the Council at your recent goal-setting session focuses our efforts over the next year to implement the electric consumption reduction recommendations provided by the Sustainability Task Force. Although the Task Force will no longer exist, we will need help in staffing the three committees that were recommended by the Task Force: 1) Public Education/Awareness, 2) Recognition/Awards/Incentives, and 3) Policy Alternatives.

In keeping with your latest direction, I would recommend that the contract with ISU for Merry Rankin's services be extended through June 30, 2012, with the expectation that her primary focus will be to provide staff assistance to the three committees in implementing the Task Force's recommendations.

I have included \$25,000 in the 2012/13 budget to continue our partnership with ISU in this sustainability effort. Therefore, once the budget is certified, I will be seeking the Council's approval to extend this contract through June 2013.

C: Merry Rankin
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