

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: 2011/12 RESOURCE RECOVERY SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS –  
NEW SCALE PLATFORM**

**BACKGROUND:**

The A. O. Chantland Resource Recovery System annually receives more than 55,000 tons of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) from Ames and Story County contract communities. This MSW is processed into refuse derived fuel (RDF) that is used by the City's Electric Utility. The MSW is received as it is delivered by trucks that are weighed on the RRS's truck scale.

The current scale is original to the 1975 plant, and replacement/repair parts are unavailable. Similar parts would need to be custom-made and would result in extended downtimes at the plant.

On Wednesday, February 1, 2012, bids for this project were received as follows:

Engineer's Estimate	\$74,800
Fairbanks Scales, Inc.	\$48,036
Scale Source North LLC.	\$80,835

These results were reported to Council on February 14, 2012, and action was delayed to provide staff and the consultant an opportunity to analyze the acceptability of the bids. Since that time, City staff and Brown Engineering, the firm that provided the design specifications, analyzed the two bids for appropriate qualifications and determined both bids to be responsive. That analysis included clarifications of the bidders' responses and discussion with Iowa State University personnel about recent work.

With the low bid of \$48,036 along with estimated engineering and construction administration costs of \$9,800, total estimated costs are \$57,836. This project is shown in the 2011/12 Capital Improvements Plan with financing established in the amount of \$75,000.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1a. Approve the final plans and specifications for the 2011/12 Resource Recovery System Improvements (New Scale Platform).
- b. Award the 2011/12 Resource Recovery System Improvements (New Scale Platform) to Fairbanks Scales, Inc., of Davenport, Iowa, in the amount of \$48,036.

2. Reject the award.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Replacement of this scale is needed in order to accurately weigh MSW received at the plant. The bid from Fairbanks Scales was found to be responsive and research of the firm showed no outstanding concerns.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the final plans and specifications and awarding the 2011/12 Resource Recovery System Improvements (New Scale Platform) to Fairbanks Scales, Inc., of Davenport, Iowa, in the amount of \$48,036.