

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: VETERINARY MEDICINE (VET MED) SUBSTATION CAPACITOR BANK
FOUNDATION INSTALLATION**

BACKGROUND:

The project is for the procurement and installation of two capacitor banks for the Vet Med Substation. Council may recall that the equipment procurement portion was awarded at the January 24, 2012 meeting. This portion of the project is for the installation of a new concrete foundation in the Vet Med Substation to support the capacitor banks. Work under this bid will include excavation in preparation of installation of a new concrete pad foundation and new power and control conduits. Council should note that City of Ames Electric Services' crews will also be utilized to install the capacitor banks, once they are delivered.

The Engineer's estimate of the total installed cost of this project is \$350,000 including the procurement of the capacitor banks (approved by Council at its January 24, 2012 meeting), the substructure installation under this bid, and the final installation by Ames' Electric Services crews. This portion of the project is estimated at \$75,000. The procurement of the equipment for the two capacitor banks costing \$218,379 plus applicable sales taxes of \$14,403.06.

In 2010/11 the CIP was adjusted to include \$350,000 for the Vet Med Substation Voltage Support project. City Council may recall that these funds were recently approved for carryover to the 2011/12 Fiscal Year. Approximately \$117,218 remains in the budget for this work.

It is the goal of Electric Services to have the capacitor banks installed by Aug 31, 2012.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the preliminary plans and specifications for Vet Med Substation capacitor bank foundation installation and set April 25, 2012, as the bid due date and May 8, 2012, as the date of hearing and award of contract.
2. Delay the installation of the foundation.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

At the Vet Med Substation, there has been and will continue to be an increase of electrical load as both the ISU Veterinary Medicine campus and the Research Park continue to grow and expand. Installation of the capacitor banks at the Vet Med Substation will provide voltage support and add capacity to the system at a needed load center, improving electric service in that area. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.