

ITEM # 15  
DATE: 05-08-12

### COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: CLOSURE OF 13<sup>TH</sup> STREET AT RIDGEWOOD FOR SANITARY SEWER REPAIRS**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

It has been discovered by Public Works staff that the sanitary sewer main at the 13<sup>th</sup> Street/ Ridgewood Avenue intersection is in need of replacement. Staff obtained competitive quotations per Purchasing Policy. A quotation of \$39,777 was received from Ames Trenching and Excavating, and a purchase order has been issued for the work.

The necessary repairs are in the area from the center of 13<sup>th</sup> Street continuing north, under the westbound lanes for approximately 50 feet. Due to the close proximity of the UPRR crossing just east of the intersection, traffic cannot be placed in a head-to-head scenario.

*The Municipal Code* requires City Council to approve temporary closures of streets that are classified as arterials or are active CyRide routes, which is the case with 13<sup>th</sup> Street. Staff has been in contact with the Ames Community School District and Parks and Recreation. In order to coordinate with the ISU Summer Sessions and the opening of the Aquatic Center, staff identified May 7 – May 25, 2012, as the best potential timeframe to schedule the sanitary sewer repair. **Once the work has begun, the contractor has a maximum of seven calendar days to complete all work related to the repair and fully open all lanes of 13<sup>th</sup> Street to traffic.**

Since the 13<sup>th</sup> Street crossing is close to the UPRR, and the contractor is allowed to set the work schedule within the allowable timeframe, it is recommended that City Council delegate to staff the ability to administratively close 13<sup>th</sup> Street at Ridgewood Avenue. Staff will coordinate the placement of all appropriate temporary traffic control measures, will work with the City's Public Relations Officer to notify the public, and will work with the Ames Schools to communicate the work schedule via InfiniteCampus throughout the duration of the project.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Delegate to staff the ability to administratively approve the closure of 13<sup>th</sup> Street at Ridgewood Avenue to accommodate the repair of the sanitary sewer.
2. Direct staff to pursue other options.

**MANAGER’S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

By granting staff the ability to administratively close 13<sup>th</sup> Street at Ridgewood Avenue, City Council will be facilitating the best possible coordination between the City, its residents, the Aquatic Center seasonal opening, and Ames Schools. It will provide the flexibility needed to minimize potential impacts to the citizens of Ames through up-to-date, accurate traffic information during the closure.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby delegating to staff the ability to administratively approve the closure of 13<sup>th</sup> Street at Ridgewood Avenue to accommodate the repair of the sanitary sewer.