

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2009/10 TRAFFIC SIGNAL PROGRAM (LINCOLN WAY & ASH AVE.)

BACKGROUND:

The Traffic Signal Program is the annual program that provides for replacing older traffic signals by constructing new traffic signals in the City. This program will result in improved visibility, reliability, and appearance of the signals.

Although recent advances in technology have elongated the normal, useful life for traffic signal installations well past the previously expected 25 years, some of the older generation traffic signals still in use exceed their functional age. Components at those installations (including conduits, wiring, signal heads, and poles) need to be completely replaced. This program provides funding for those maintenance needs. In addition, this program provides for the necessary upgrades to the traffic signal system as technology continues to change. In recent years, the traffic signal replacements have included radar detection systems instead of the typical in-pavement loop detection system that frequently was the point of vehicle detection failure. Another advantage of the radar detection system is that it detects bicycles in addition to vehicles.

Staff has completed plans and specifications for the 2009/10 Program with estimated construction costs of \$145,000. Engineering and construction administration are estimated in the amount of \$15,000, which brings total project cost to **\$160,000**. This project received \$50,000 from an Iowa Department of Transportation Traffic Safety Improvement Program grant. The Capital Improvements Plan also provides \$175,000 from the Road Use Tax Fund, which brings total project funding to **\$225,000**.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the plans and specifications for the 2009/10 Traffic Signal Program (Lincoln Way & Ash Avenue) by establishing October 18, 2012, as the date of letting and October 23, 2012, as the date for report of bids.
2. Reject the project.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approval of the plans and specifications will initiate the letting process and should allow for the project to be completed by July 15, 2013, which is prior to the beginning of the 2013 fall semester for Iowa State University.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the plans and specifications for the 2009/10 Traffic Signal Program (Lincoln Way & Ash Avenue) by establishing October 18, 2012, as the date of letting and October 23, 2012, as the date for report of bids.