

### **COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: 2012/13 AMES MUNICIPAL CEMETERY IMPROVEMENTS (PAVING IMPROVEMENTS)**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

There are nearly two miles of paved lanes north of 9th Street within the Ames Municipal Cemetery boundaries. These lanes provide public access for visitors to gravesites and for funerals as well as for access for crews and equipment for funeral preparations and maintenance of the sites and grounds. Prior to 2008/09, endowed care funds were used for surface maintenance of the cemetery lanes. Beginning in 2008/09, state regulations were put into place that prohibited the use of these funds for all cemetery costs. As a result of these new regulations and loss of funding created by them, maintenance of the lanes was stopped, but continued use has created deterioration of the lanes.

After reviewing the lanes in the cemetery, a plan was created to address the deficiencies over several years. This project will entail a three-inch overlay of the lane adjacent to the office and parking lot, seal coat in the areas around the maintenance buildings, and will provide a two-inch overlay for some of the southern lanes of the cemetery. The City also has a contract for slurry sealing some of the lanes in the northeast area of the cemetery.

The estimated construction cost is \$75,000. With engineering and construction administration estimated at \$1,000, the total estimated expenses are \$76,000. The available funding for this project is \$59,075 of Local Option Sales Tax from the Capital Improvements Plan in FY 11/12 and 12/13, and \$17,065 remaining from the cemetery fence project bringing total funding to \$76,140.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the plans and specifications for the 2012/2013 Ames Municipal Cemetery Improvements (Paving Improvements) by establishing February 20, 2013, as the date of letting and February 26, 2013, as the date for report of bids.
2. Reject the project.

#### **MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**This project will improve the look and ride for visitors to the Ames Municipal Cemetery. These paving improvements were discussed by the Cemetery Focus Group to accompany other improvements that have been made at the cemetery, including benches and trash cans.**

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 2012/2013 Ames Municipal Cemetery Improvements (Paving Improvements) by establishing February 20, 2013, as the date of letting and February 26, 2013, as the date for report of bids.