

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: 2013/14 TRAFFIC SIGNAL PROGRAM (GRAND AVE. & 20<sup>TH</sup> ST.)**

**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 signal aesthetics.

Although recent advances in technology have extended 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. 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 also detects bicycles.

On January 22, 2014, bids on this project were received as follows:

	<b>Base Bid</b>	<b>Alternatives</b>	<b>Total</b>
Engineers Estimate	\$159,669.50	\$24,800.00	\$184,469.50
Baker Electric	\$181,579.05	\$30,984.00	\$212,563.05
Voltmer, Inc.	\$187,723.15	\$25,339.00	\$213,062.15
KWS, Inc.	\$186,250.00	\$27,080.00	\$213,330.00
Iowa Signal, Inc.	\$196,230.57	\$24,186.75	\$220,417.32
Watts Electric Company	\$244,520.41	\$23,135.00	\$267,655.41

The bid alternatives were to provide spare equipment to have on-site replacements in the rare event of equipment failures. However, due to cost all bid alternates were rejected. Since the base bid will meet all standards, specifications, and federal access requirements, it is appropriate to move forward with awarding the base bid to Baker Electric of Des Moines, Iowa, in the amount of \$181,579.05.

Engineering and construction administration for the program is estimated at \$12,000, bringing **total costs to \$193,579.05**. The Capital Improvements Plan includes **\$200,000** from the Road Use Tax Fund for this project.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1a. Accept the report of bids for the 2013/14 Traffic Signal Program (Grand Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street) for the base bids only, thereby rejecting all bid alternates.
  
- b. Approve the final plans and specifications for this project.

- c. Award the 2013/14 Traffic Signal Program (Grand Avenue and 20<sup>th</sup> Street) to Baker Electric of Des Moines, Iowa, in the amount of \$181,579.05.

2. Do not proceed with the project at this time.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

By approving this project, the structural and operational integrity of the designated signal will be restored during the 2014 construction season.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.