

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR SQUAW CREEK WATER MAIN PROTECTION PROJECT**

BACKGROUND:

Included in the 2012-2017 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) was a program entitled Flood Response and Mitigation Projects that included \$820,000 in General Obligation Bonds and \$325,000 in Storm Sewer Utility Funds. Portions of this funding were used on a flood mitigation project in Northridge Subdivision/Moore Memorial Park and for bank stabilization near Utah Drive and another location near North Riverside. These three projects are now complete. **The two remaining projects are the Trail Ridge Landslide and the Squaw Creek Water Main Protection projects (this project).** Unspent local funding totaling \$628,737 has been carried forward through budget amendments.

On March 22, 2016, City Council approved the Grant Agreement with Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA)/ Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department (HSEMD) for Phase II of the City of Ames, Squaw Creek Water Main Protection Project. Under this agreement, FEMA and State of Iowa (through Iowa Homeland Security) will pay up to \$571,370 (85%) for this project, with the City contributing \$100,830 (15%). This project has been actively pursued since the 2010 floods.

The alternative recommended in the October 2015 Phase I report to progress toward Phase II (construction) is based on a stream restoration approach utilizing integrated/bioengineering techniques. Bank stabilization techniques would consist of flattening the banks, construction of terraces within the banks, utilization of revetment stone for stabilization at lower elevations (up to the terrace), and structural soil (soil filled rock) with native plantings at elevations above the terrace. The project will also consist of installing a rock flume (rip rap) downstream of the low head dam to eliminate the eddy pool contributing to the bank erosion.

Considering the current and future risk to the existing infrastructure, restoring a gradual transition downstream of the dam is recommended. This option is considered the most cost-effective to achieve the objectives and would also improve ecological functions and aquatic habitat, as well as reduce the area disturbed by the project.

Professional services proposals were received and rated by City staff for design work associated with the recommended Phase II tasks as agreed upon by FEMA and HSEMD. Three proposals were received and rated as follows:

Firm	Average Score	Rank	Estimated Fee
Snyder	89	1	\$111,900
RDG	76	2	\$ 99,200
Knight A/E	75	3	\$ 70,024

After analyzing the ratings and discussing the content of the proposal including similar project experience, staff evaluation committee is recommending awarding this engineering services contract to Snyder & Associates of Ankeny, IA. **Through previous projects, Snyder & Associates has already developed a hydraulic model of Squaw Creek and the company’s knowledge of this section of Squaw Creek is exponentially higher at this time than the other two proposals reviewed. Their proposed fee is reasonable considering the work to be completed as part of Phase II. In addition, Snyder & Associates has indicated that their current workload enables them to complete this project on-time. Snyder & Associates has prior experience with FEMA Hazard Mitigation funded projects as well as experience in working with the environmental permitting process of the Corps of Engineers and Iowa Department of Natural Resources.**

The budget for this project is:

Revenue:		Expenses:	
Grants	\$571,370	Engineering Design & Inspection	\$111,900
City of Ames	\$100,830	Construction	\$560,300
Total	\$672,200	Total	\$672,200

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve a professional services agreement with Snyder & Associates of Ankeny, Iowa, for work associated with Phase II of the City of Ames, Squaw Creek Water Main Protection Project at a not to exceed cost of \$111,900.
2. Direct staff to negotiate a professional services agreement with a different company.

MANAGER’S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Through approving this agreement for Phase II, the City will work toward protecting the existing 24-inch water main under Squaw Creek at Lincoln Way using the authorized federal, state, and local funding as approved by City Council on March 22, 2016. Delay of approving this professional services agreement could jeopardize receipt of federal and state funding, due to this project being on an extremely tight schedule as directed by FEMA.

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