

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE REPAIR OF THE RDF STORAGE BIN

BACKGROUND:

Electric Services needs to engage an engineering firm to provide engineering services to evaluate the condition and structural integrity of the refuse derived fuel (RDF) Storage Bin, and to prepare certified plans and specifications (stamped by an engineer licensed in Iowa) that will be issued by the City to prospective bidders for the repair of the RDF containment and structural components of the RDF Storage Bin to restore it to like-new condition.

RDF is produced at the City's Resource Recovery Plant (RRP) from municipal solid waste (MSW) collected from Ames and other communities in Story County, Iowa. After being processed at the RRP, the RDF is pneumatically transported to the RDF Storage Bin where it is stored until it is pneumatically transported to one of the two power plant's boilers, where it is co-fired with natural gas.

On September 14, 2017, a Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued soliciting proposals from engineering firms for the following scope of work:

- 1) Inspect the RDF Storage Bin and determine the extent of the repair necessary to return to structure and containment areas to like-new condition.
- 2) Develop written plans and specifications for the repair or replacement of the necessary elements identified by the inspection in Item 1) above.
- 3) Provide an engineer's estimate for the cost of the project
- 4) Provide a list of qualified bidders for the project
- 5) **Option** to utilize the engineering firm to independently evaluate bids for the project.
- 6) **Option** to utilize the engineering firm to provide construction management services during the period that the contractor is onsite performing work.

The RFP was advertised on the Current Bid Opportunities section of the Purchasing webpage, and was also sent to two plan rooms. The RFP was ultimately issued to a total of twenty firms. On October 26, 2017, staff received proposals from three firms. Staff independently evaluated and scored all three proposals using the following two step process:

STEP 1:

The proposals were evaluated based on the offerors submitting the minimum required documents. This criterion was rated on a Pass/Fail basis.

STEP 2:

The proposals were then evaluated according to the following five (5) criteria:

- 1) knowledge, capabilities, skills, and experience of the proposed project team to accomplish the project scope of work, based on resumes submitted;
- 2) firm's experience and references regarding similar projects;
- 3) the proposed schedule (to perform the scope of this RFP), as detailed in the offeror's proposal;
- 4) experience and familiarity with the COA's Power Plant and its operation experience; and
- 5) price and rates.

The average scores of Step 2 are shown below:

Offerors	Average Scores	Not-to-Exceed Amount
Sargent & Lundy, LLC Chicago, IL	802	\$52,096.00
Brown Engineering Des Moines, IA	745	\$90,286.00
Valdes Engineering Company Lombard, IL	553	\$155,800.00

The prices in the table above are inclusive of the Items 1) through 4) of the scope of work described above, plus Item 5), the option for the evaluation of bids.

The Item 6) option, for on-site construction management services, was not included in the prices above (in the table), nor in the evaluations. However, it is likely that the City will exercise that option later, but since the repair of the RDF Storage Bin cannot be bid until this engineering scope of work is complete, the actual project schedule is unknown, and so it is not possible to accurately determine the cost to provide construction management services. At a future date, when the bids for the repair are in and the project schedule is known, staff anticipates that City Council will then be asked to approve the additional cost of providing construction management services to support the repair project.

Each of the five (5) categories was weighted and was scored on a scale of 1 to 10. Overall, 1,000 possible points were available cumulatively for each firm that responded.

Based on the scores and a unanimous decision by the evaluation committee, staff is recommending that a contract be awarded to Sargent & Lundy, LLC, Chicago, IL, for an amount not-to-exceed \$52,096.00. Invoices for this work will be based upon unit prices in Sargent & Lundy's proposal and their standard rate sheet applied to the actual hours of work performed.

The approved FY2017/18 Capital Improvements Plan includes \$2,800,000 for RDF Bin renovation. Of that amount, \$300,000 was earmarked for engineering.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award a contract to Sargent & Lundy, LLC, Chicago, IL, for the Engineering Services for the Repair of the RDF Storage Bin in an amount not-to-exceed \$52,096.00.
2. Award the contract to one of the other bidders.
3. Reject all proposals and delay the engineering services for the repair of the RDF bin.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This scope of work, the inspection of the RDF Storage Bin and the development of plans and specifications for the project, is a critical first step required to perform the urgently needed "public improvement" repair of the RDF Storage Bin. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.