

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: APPROVE PLANS AND SPECS FOR RELOCATION OF 161 KV TRANSMISSION LINE FROM AMES PLANT TO NE ANKENY**

**BACKGROUND:**

The Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) is carrying out highway improvements along Interstate 35 north of Ankeny. These improvements include construction where I-35 crosses NE 158<sup>th</sup> Ave and NE 142<sup>nd</sup> Ave and at the I-35 interchange of NE 126<sup>th</sup> Ave. The City owns a 161kV electric transmission line that is situated on DOT right of way in this area. The IDOT construction project will require relocation of a portion of the transmission line in vicinity of these roads. **All costs associated with this relocation project will be reimbursed by the Iowa Department of Transportation.**

**On February 22, 2022, Council approved a professional services agreement with DGR for the design and engineering of this project in the total amount of \$291,000. The action now being requested is for the approval of plans and specifications for the Ames Plant to NE Ankeny 161 kV Transmission Line Iowa DOT Relocation. Staff is asking to set October 13, 2022, as the bid due date and October 25, 2022, as the date of public hearing and award of contract.**

The engineer's estimate for the construction phase of this relocation project is \$2,090,300. Council also previously approved an engineering reimbursement agreement with IDOT in the total amount of \$383,000, which includes \$291,000 for engineering services and \$92,400 for easement acquisition. The current estimated total project cost is \$2,404,000 including \$291,000 for engineering, \$22,700 for easements and crop damages and \$2,090,300 for construction labor and materials. The approved FY 2021/22 Capital Improvements Plan includes \$2,404,000 under the project titled "161 kV Line Relocation."

All engineering and construction expenses for the project will be reimbursed by IDOT. **A revised reimbursement agreement with IDOT, which reflects the construction costs in addition to the originally approved engineering costs will be brought to Council for approval at the same time as the award recommendation for this construction-phase of the project.**

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve plans and specifications for the Ames Plant to NE Ankeny 161 kV Transmission Line Iowa DOT Relocation and set October 13, 2022, as the bid due date and October 25, 2022, as the date of public hearing and award of contract.
2. Do not approve plans and specifications at this time, which would delay the IDOT's project.

**CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

In order to facilitate these IDOT improvements, the City's 161 kV transmission line must be relocated. **Staff is also working with IDOT on revising the reimbursement agreement for the construction portion of the project. The revised reimbursement agreement will be brought before Council for approval prior to committing to the construction.**

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