

AMES AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: **190th ST CORRIDOR STUDY**

BACKGROUND:

The need for a study of the 190th St corridor from GW Carver Ave to US 69 (see Figure 1 below showing study limits) was originally identified in the Ames Area MPO's 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, Forward 2045, to evaluate current and future traffic operations and develop potential solutions to address current and anticipated future traffic operational deficiencies. Story County, the City of Ames, and the Ames Area MPO have received feedback that traffic operations along 190th St, particularly at the intersection of 190th St and Hyde Ave, have begun to deteriorate in recent years due to new residential developments in the area, and significant delays and perceived safety issues are being experienced, particularly during peak hours. To provide an interim solution, the City of Ames and Story County joint-funded the installation of a temporary signal at the intersection of 190th St. and Hyde Ave. In October 2021, which has thus far improved traffic operations. However, with anticipated further development in this area, traffic volumes are expected to continue to grow along the corridor and longer-term solutions should be evaluated for the 190th St corridor in this region to accommodate that growth.



Figure 1. Study Limits

Earlier this year, the Ames Area MPO included this study in its Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) as a special study. **The FFY23 TPWP allocated \$52,000 in MPO planning funds for this study, with \$13,000 as the local match from the City of Ames as the local sponsor, providing a total project budget of \$65,000. The City of Ames shows this project in its 2022-23 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) within the Traffic System Capacity Improvements Program, with the \$13,000 local match coming from Road Use Tax funds.**

CONSULTANT SELECTION:

Following applicable federal and state mandated purchasing requirements, to allow use of federal planning funds, the City of Ames solicited a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the study. A total of seven (7) proposals were received. Each of these proposals were evaluated and ranked by a project selection team consisting of Ames Area MPO, City of Ames, and Story County engineering staff. Listed below are the criteria used for scoring the proposals:

<u>Scoring Criteria:</u>	<u>Points</u>
Project Understanding & Approach:	25
Project Team & Key Personnel:	25
Previous Experience:	20
Understanding of Study Area/Ames:	10
Ability to Perform Work:	10
Responsiveness:	10

The scores for the received proposals, utilizing the above criteria, are as follows:

Rank	Firm	Score
1	Bolton & Menk, Inc.	91
2	SRF Consulting Group, Inc.	89
3	Strand Associates, Inc.	89
4	WHKS & Co.	85
5	Shive-Hattery, Inc.	82
6	Felsburg Holt & Ullevig, Inc.	81
7	Snyder & Associates, Inc.	80

Given the above rankings, **staff has negotiated a contract with the highest ranked firm, Bolton & Menk, Inc. of Ames, Iowa.**

STUDY SCOPE:

The key services the consultant will perform include the following:

- Evaluation of existing conditions (vehicle traffic counts, vehicle speeds, crash data, bicycle and pedestrian usage, multi-modal origin-destination behavior, railroad crossing delay)
- Traffic forecasting to years 2030 and 2045 by utilizing the Regional Travel Demand Model
- Detailed inventory of existing setbacks, right-of-way, and roadway configuration along the corridor.
- Conduct an access control review including recommendations for future development access and street spacing along 190th Street.
- Develop and refine corridor alternatives by utilizing traffic modeling in coordination with City of Ames, Story County staff, Iowa DOT staff.
- Provide planning-level cost estimates, conceptual layouts, estimated vehicle emissions, and a 20-year life-cycle cost-benefit analysis for the 2 refined build alternatives.
- Provide support for a public open house.
- Develop a report detailing the study's findings, including a presentation of the draft report to the Ames Area MPO Transportation Policy Committee for feedback.
- Finalizing the report, including a final estimated cost and desired timeline for implementation for the recommended alternative.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Recommend that the City of Ames approve the professional services agreement for the 190th St Corridor Study (GW Carver Ave to US 69) project with Bolton & Menk, Inc., of Ames, Iowa, in an amount not to exceed \$64,900.
2. Direct staff to negotiate an agreement with another firm.

ADMINISTRATOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

The need for this study was originally identified in Forward 2045 and the results from this study will provide direction in programming future capital projects. Based on the multi-agency staff evaluation, Bolton & Menk, Inc. will provide the best value for this study.

Therefore, it is recommended by the Administrator that the Transportation Policy Committee adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.