

ITEM #: 14  
DATE: 10-10-23  
DEPT: PW

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: 2022/23 SHARED USE PATH SYSTEM EXPANSION – GRAND AVENUE**

**BACKGROUND:**

This program provides for construction of shared use paths on street rights-of-way, adjacent to streets and through greenbelts. The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) identifies those paths that separate bicycle traffic from higher-speed automobile traffic. **This project will construct a shared use path along the west side of Grand Avenue from Lincoln Way to 6<sup>th</sup> Street.**

**This contract involves the design of the project.** Services will include a base survey, evaluation of construction technique, area drainage analysis, preparation of plans and specifications, notification and coordination with Iowa DOT, adjacent property owners, and contractors of nearby construction projects (DOT HWY 69 Resurfacing, etc.), holding at least one public informational meeting, and attendance at a pre-construction meeting. Also included will be plan development and all required submittals to meet City letting requirements, with an anticipated 2024 letting for construction in 2025.

Proposals for this work were received from four engineering firms and were evaluated according to the following criteria: Project Understanding, Design Team, Previous Experience, Ability to Perform Work, and Estimated Contract Cost. Listed below is the ranking information based on this evaluation:

Engineering Firm	Overall Rank	Estimated Fee
WHKS & Co.	1	\$ 58,100
Clapsaddle-Garber Associates, Inc.	2	\$ 42,000
Bolton & Menk, Inc.	3	\$ 87,200
Civil Design Advantage, LLC	4	\$ 59,000

Given the above rankings, staff has negotiated a contract with the highest ranked firm, WHKS & Co., of Ames, Iowa.

This project is shown in the 2022-23 Capital Improvements Plan with funding in the amount of \$650,000 in Local Option Sales Tax for administration, engineering, and construction.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the engineering services agreement for the 2022/23 Shared Use Path System Expansion – Grand Avenue project with WHKS & Co., of Ames, Iowa, in an amount not to exceed \$58,100.
2. Direct staff to negotiate an engineering agreement with another consulting firm.
3. Decide not to move ahead with this project at this time.

**CITY MANAGER’S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Based on staff’s evaluation using the above criteria, WHKS & Co. will provide the best value to the City in designing this project. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.