

ITEM #: 14
DATE: 11-14-23
DEPT: PW

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2023/24 AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (WILDLIFE FENCE PROJECT) PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT

BACKGROUND:

The 2023/24 Airport Improvements Program approved in the City's Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) includes work to design and install a barrier fence of sufficient height to limit animal crossings at James Herman Banning Ames Municipal Airport (see attached design concept map). The fence type capable of stopping animal entry is not required to cover the entire airport property, just those critical safety areas around the runways and taxiways.

In August 2023, City staff conducted a qualifications-based selection following federal requirements for a Master Agreement for the development of plans and specifications for this and other upcoming airport projects. Bolton & Menk of Ames, Iowa, was determined to be the most qualified firm and was approved by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). **FAA does not require City Council approval of the Master Agreement because it only establishes consultant eligibility and does not obligate any City or Federal funds.**

Each project is conducted under a separate work order approved by the City Council and FAA. Therefore, the 2023/24 Airport Improvements Program (Wildlife Fence Project) is the next project ready for design and as detailed in the attached draft agreement. **Bolton & Menk's work under this contract will include topographic survey, preliminary design, and a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review.**

The cost of this contract is \$77,700, which will be funded with a 90% FAA/10% City split. **FAA regulations require that Bolton & Menk's proposed scope of work and fee schedule undergo a review for appropriateness by an independent professional engineer, which has taken place.**

Engineering work under this contract must be completed before the project can move into the final design, which will be detailed under a separate agreement. A detailed cost estimate will be developed at that time. This project is shown in the 2023/24 CIP with \$1,962,000 FAA funding and \$218,000 from the Airport Construction Fund.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the professional services agreement for the preliminary design and environmental review for the FY 2023/24 Airport Improvement Program (Wildlife Fence Project) with Bolton & Menk of Ames, Iowa, in the amount not to exceed \$77,700.
2. Do not approve the professional services agreement with Bolton & Menk and direct staff to solicit other proposals for this project.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Wildlife Fence Project is expected to greatly improve safety at the Airport, preventing wildlife from entering critical areas and reducing the need for annual removal efforts. This proactive approach aligns with best practices in aviation safety and will enhance the overall operational effectiveness of the facility. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.

[CATEX for Ames Perimeter Fence Letter Proposal.pdf](#)
[Fencing Layout Exhibit.pdf](#)