

ITEM #: 14
DATE: 05-28-24
DEPT: PW

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

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

BACKGROUND:

The FY 2023/24 Airport Improvements Program includes work to design and install a barrier fence of sufficient height to limit animal crossings at James Herman Banning Ames Municipal Airport. In August 2023, City staff conducted a qualifications-based selection following federal requirements for a Master Agreement to develop plans and specifications for this and other upcoming airport projects. One submittal was received from Bolton & Menk of Ames, Iowa, and was determined to be qualified and 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 FY 2023/24 Airport Improvements Program (Wildlife Fence Project) is the next project ready for design, as detailed in the attached draft agreement. On November 14, 2023, the City Council approved a professional services agreement (PSA) with Bolton & Menk, that conducted the preliminary design and all work necessary to perform the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review. Now that the City has completed that step, the FAA has approved moving forward with the final design and construction of the wildlife fence.

The negotiated professional service fees for final design, bidding, and construction administration are \$307,600, and will be funded with a 90% FAA/10% City split. To ensure appropriateness, the FAA requires a review of Bolton & Menk's proposed scope of work and fee schedule by an independent professional engineer. This has been completed and accepted by the FAA.

A detailed construction cost summary will be provided during the report of bids phase of the project. The FAA awards construction grants based on the actual low bid received. Any potential construction contract is contingent on the receipt of FAA grants and the availability of local matching funds for those federal dollars. This project is currently budgeted with \$1,962,000 FAA funding and \$218,000 from the Airport Construction Fund.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the professional services agreement for the final design and construction administration for the FY 2023/24 Airport Improvement Program (Wildlife Fence Project) with Bolton & Menk of Ames, Iowa, in the amount not to exceed \$307,600.
2. Do not approve the professional services agreement with Bolton & Menk and direct staff to explore other alternatives 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.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[Ames-Wildlife Fence Design and Construction Work Order 5 - Annotated per FAA Comments FINAL v2.pdf](#)