

ITEM #: 1  
DATE: 05-28-24  
DEPT: AAMPO

**TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HDR ENGINEERING, INC.  
FOR 2050 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE**

**BACKGROUND:**

Every five years, the Ames Area MPO (AAMPO) is required to develop a Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), formerly known as a Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). As defined by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), the primary purpose of the MTP is to identify how the metropolitan area will manage and operate a multi-modal transportation system (including transit, highway, bicycle, pedestrian, and accessible transportation) to meet the region's economic, transportation, development, and sustainability goals for a 20+ year planning horizon, while remaining fiscally constrained. **This update to the AAMPO's MTP will have an anticipated completion date of September 23, 2025, and will utilize 2050 as the planning horizon year.**

The AAMPO included the MTP update in its Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2025 Transportation Planning Work Program (TPWP) and FFY 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). **In total, \$400,000 in federal MPO planning funds is budgeted for the MTP update with a required local match of \$100,000 (20% of the \$500,000 total). The City of Ames lists the MTP update in its 2023-2028 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) in 2023/24, with the \$100,000 local match coming from the Road Use Tax Fund.**

**CONSULTANT SELECTION:**

Following applicable federal and state mandated purchasing requirements, to allow use of federal planning funds, the AAMPO first solicited a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to establish a list of qualified firms that would then proceed to the Request for Proposals (RFP) stage. A total of two (2) statements of qualifications (SOQs) were received. Each SOQ was evaluated by a project selection team consisting of AAMPO and City of Ames staff. Listed below are the criteria used for scoring the SOQs:

<u>RFQ Scoring Criteria:</u>	<u>Points</u>
Project Understanding:	25
Project Team & Key Personnel:	25
Previous Experience:	20
Understanding of AAMPO Region:	10
Ability to Perform Work:	10
Responsiveness:	10

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

Rank	Firm(s)	Score
1	HDR Engineering	97
2	Felsburg Holt & Ullevig ( <i>Prime</i> ), SRF Consulting, ATG	92

The project selection team determined that both project teams that submitted SOQs were qualified to advance to the RFP stage. Each team conducted an in-person presentation of its proposal to the project selection team (which consisted of staff from the AAMPO, the City of Ames, and Story County). The proposals and presentations were scored using the following criteria:

<u>Proposal Presentation Scoring Criteria:</u>	<u>Points</u>
MTP Content:	50
Transportation Modeling & Data Review/Analysis:	25
Public & Stakeholder Engagement:	15
Project Schedule:	5
Project Management:	5

The scores for the presentations and proposals, utilizing the above criteria, are as shown below. Following Federal requirements, this is a qualifications-based selection and proposed fees cannot be considered for selecting the preferred firm.

Rank	Firm(s)	Score
1	HDR Engineering	94
2	Felsburg Holt & Ullevig ( <i>Prime</i> ), SRF Consulting, ATG	88

**Given the above rankings, staff has negotiated a contract with the highest rank firm, HDR Engineering, Inc. of Omaha, Nebraska.**

**PROJECT SCOPE:**

The key services the consultant will perform include the following:

- Create a Metropolitan Transportation Plan for the AAMPO with a planning horizon year of 2050 which meets all applicable state and federal requirements.
- Collect and process all applicable data needed to evaluate the performance of the transportation system (GIS data, traffic data, crash data, transit data, bicycle/pedestrian data, pavement & bridge data, socioeconomic data, and previous transportation studies in the AAMPO region).
- Conduct a Community Transportation Assessment Survey to be administered using a combination of mail and online methods and create a final report and summary of the survey results to be used in the MTP's development.
- Create a Regional Travel Demand Model (in coordination with Iowa DOT and AAMPO staff) using TransCAD software and a regional traffic model (in coordination with AAMPO and City of Ames staff) using Synchro software. Models will include base year (2023), interim year (2035 or 2040), and future year (2050) scenarios.

- Using collected data and the travel demand and traffic models, evaluate the existing performance of the transportation system in the AAMPO region. This will include evaluating the existing region profile (historical & projected population, employment, movement, and commuter trends), existing highway and major roadway performance, travel time reliability, safety, bridge conditions, pavement conditions, transit system performance, bicycle and pedestrian system performance, and regional connectivity.
- Evaluate the projected future performance of the transportation system in the interim and future planning years including: future traffic operations, pavement & bridge needs, potential impacts of emerging trends & technologies, and multi-modal system performance.
- Develop robust community and stakeholder engagement strategies through the creation of a Public Engagement Plan. Assist the AAMPO and City of Ames with public & stakeholder engagement efforts including: creation of a project webpage on the AAMPO website, program branding, engagement booths at community events, visioning public open house, visioning web-based open house, alternatives/strategies public open house, alternatives/strategies web-based open house, and web-based draft plan open house.
- Develop alternatives, projects, and strategies to meet the needs of the transportation system as identified in the existing and future evaluation of the transportation network. This will include roadway, multi-modal, transit, bicycle/pedestrian, and pavement rehabilitation and reconstruction alternatives and projects.
- Develop a fiscally constrained implementation plan using prioritized alternatives. The implementation plan will include short-term, medium-term, and long-term alternatives/projects. Forecasted future federal, state, and local funding sources will be leveraged to ensure fiscal constraint. Projects will undergo an environmental and constructability review during implementation plan development. Areas requiring further, more detailed, study will also be identified. For each project identified in the fiscally constrained plan, information such as project type, termini, cost, and anticipated funding source will be included at a minimum.
- Deliver presentations to the AAMPO Transportation Policy and Technical Committees at key project milestones throughout the life of the project.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Recommend that the City of Ames approve the professional services agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. of Omaha, Nebraska for the 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan update in an amount not to exceed \$499,851.
2. Direct staff to negotiate an agreement with another firm.

#### **MPO DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**HDR Engineering, Inc. has successfully led the development of the past several MP updates for the AAMPO and, based on staff evaluation, they will provide the best value for the 2050 MTP update. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the MPO Executive Director that the Transportation Policy Committee adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.**