

ITEM #: 15
DATE: 08-27-24
DEPT: ELEC

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: IOWA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION - NW WING TRANSFORMER
RELOCATION**

BACKGROUND:

Electric Services provides service to the Iowa Department of Transportation's (IDOT) main campus at 800 Lincoln Way. The NW Wing of the IDOT Administration Building was constructed in the early 1970s. At that time, two sets of overhead-style transformers were installed in the basement of the NW Wing. Although this was a standard practice at the time of the NW Wing's construction, the location of the transformers results in a potentially hazardous working space for Electric Services personnel under current National Electric Code standards. It is Electric Services' current standard practice to serve buildings of this type using outdoor pad-mounted transformers that can be easily inspected, maintained, and replaced when needed with common inventory transformers.

The NW wing is currently unoccupied during a building-wide remodel project being undertaken by the IDOT. **Electric Services has contacted IDOT staff and has received agreement to remove the transformers from the basement of the NW Wing and replace them with an outdoor pad-mounted transformer.** Additional revisions to the internal electrical system of the NW Wing are required to accommodate the transformer relocation project.

The entire transformer relocation project costs are Electric Services' responsibility to pay. If this work was entirely outdoor work, this project could be completed by Electric Services staff. However, IDOT prefers to procure and manage the project to address coordination with their building remodel project. Therefore, IDOT has received quotes in the amount of \$121,509.29 from contractors already working on-site, to perform the work requested by Electric Services.

Electric Services has reviewed the quotes and is recommending that IDOT be paid an amount equal to \$121,509.29 for this transformer relocation. An Electric Facilities Agreement has been drafted that details the responsibilities of the parties involved with this project.

Upon completion of the relocation project, Electric Services will own and maintain an outdoor pad-mounted transformer to provide electric service to the NW Wing. The overhead-style transformers will be removed from the basement of the NW Wing and the room will be turned over to IDOT.

Funds are included in the FY 2024/25 Underground Extensions & Improvements budget at \$150,000 to cover this expense.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Electric Facilities Agreement between IDOT and Electric Services and authorize payment to IDOT in the amount of \$121,509.29 for the relocation of Electric Services' transformer at the NW Wing at IDOT campus.
2. Refer this item back to staff for further information.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This project is necessary for Electric Services to continue providing safe, reliable service to the NW Wing of the Administration Building on the Iowa Dept. of Transportation campus at 800 Lincoln Way. Performing the work while the building is unoccupied will significantly reduce the impact to IDOT. Payment to IDOT is appropriate in this situation. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[IDOT - Electric Facilities Agreement - IDOT Signature.pdf](#)