

ITEM #: 31  
DATE: 05-13-25  
DEPT: P&R

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT:**           **HOMWOOD GOLF COURSE HOLE #9 CROSSING PROJECT**

**BACKGROUND:**

The ninth hole at Homewood Golf Course contains a ravine that separates the tee box from the green. Over the last few years staff has questioned the stability of the ravine bank at the hole. Additionally, there is a walking bridge across the ravine on hole nine that connects the tee to the green which is not rated to handle golf carts and needs to be replaced.

Based on these observations, staff developed a Request for Proposal (RFP) with the scope of services that includes addressing these two issues. The RFP includes two phases: 1) Evaluate the ravine and provide a report including recommendations to resolve any identified issues, and 2) Design a crossing for hole nine. The crossing may consist of a replacement bridge or other method to cross the ravine, depending on the consultant's recommendation.

Staff invited representatives from qualified firms to submit responses to the RFP; three proposals were received. Staff evaluated the three proposals based on following criteria: project understanding and thoroughness of the response; experience and qualifications of the firm and design team; project approach; responsiveness to what was requested in the RFP; proposed schedule; and cost. The firms and evaluation rank are listed below:

<b>Firm</b>	<b>Evaluation Rank</b>
WHKS and Co., Ames, Iowa	1
Snyder and Associates, Ankeny, Iowa	2
Bolton and Menk, Ames, Iowa	3

Staff has determined that all three proposals are acceptable. However, the proposal submitted by WHKS & Co., Ames, Iowa was ranked number one based on the points received during the evaluation process. The cost presented by WHKS and Co., to complete the requested scope of services for this project is \$81,050.

The FY 2022/23 CIP included \$25,000 (Local Option Sales Tax) for the Ravine Study and the FY 2023/24 CIP included \$75,000 (Homewood Operational Fund Balance) to complete plans and specifications for the hole nine crossing. There is \$250,000 included in the FY 2025/26 CIP for the construction of the crossing.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Award a contract to WHKS and Co., Ames, Iowa, for the Homewood Golf Course Ravine Study and Engineering Services for the Hole Nine Crossing in the amount of \$81,050.
2. Award a contract to one of the other firm for the Homewood Golf Course Ravine Study and Engineering Services for the Hole Nine Crossing.

3. Do not award a contract at this time and refer back to staff.

**CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Homewood Golf Course is a very popular course with the residents of Ames. In 2024, over 25,000 rounds of golf were played at the course and it was also voted the "Best Golf Course in Story County".

**Conducting the Ravine Study and completing construction of a new crossing will only further protect and enhance the golf course. With the expertise WHKS and Co. brings, City staff is confident cost-effective solutions will be provided in order for the City to address any issues identified in the Ravine Study and also design a crossing that will last for many years.** Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, as noted above.