



Item No. 26  
**MEMO**

**To:** Mayor and Ames City Council Members

**From:** Steven L. Schainker, City Manager

**Date:** September 9, 2025

**Subject:** Fire Station No. 2 Relocation Project

At the August 19, 2025 workshop, the City Council began a discussion regarding the prioritization of the many major projects that have been mentioned in previous separate City Council conversations, including: Fire Station #2 Relocation, Fire House #4, Ontario Community Park, Recreation Center, Downtown Guiding Vision Elements, Downtown Parking Garage, and Developer Incentive Requests. Since this was only the beginning of the prioritization discussion, no final decisions were made at the August 19 meeting.

**Staff pointed out that there were no timing issues with all of the proposed projects except one, the Fire Station #2 project.** This project, according to state code, will require a referendum that can take place only in November of each year.

**The intent of this memo is not to continue the prioritization discussion for all of the proposed projects, but only to determine if the Council wants to hold a referendum for a relocated fire station in November 2025, or wait until November 2026.**

**The deadline to place a referendum on the November 2025 ballot is September 18, 2025.** Should the City Council decide to establish a November 2025 referendum date, a special City Council meeting will be needed on September 16 to approve a resolution placing the bond issue question on the November ballot.