ITEM #:	**16**
DATE:	**01-13-26**
DEPT:	**PW**

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR STORM SEWER SYSTEM ANALYSIS

BACKGROUND:

The City of Ames Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) includes an annual Storm Sewer System Analysis program to guide long-term stormwater investments and reduce localized flooding throughout the city. The CIP allocated funding for this effort for four years beginning in FY 2017/18 and ending in FY 2020/21 from the Storm Water Utility Fund, with the intent of completing a data-driven analysis to identify deficiencies in the existing stormwater system and to inform future capital improvement priorities.

In order to further refine the scope of the study, staff worked to identify key study areas within the community prior to engaging a consultant. This included gathering baseline information, seeking public input, and coordinating with peer cities that have completed similar stormwater system analyses.

To date, staff has expended approximately $82,095 on the collection of field data for existing stormwater infrastructure, and public engagement activities, including conversations and surveys with residents. This data was used to update and refine the City's GIS stormwater data to improve accuracy and reduce the amount of field data collection required by the selected consultant.

Based on public input and staff analysis, six primary study areas (see attached map) were identified where stormwater deficiencies and localized flooding concerns are most prevalent. Focusing on these areas allows the City to complete a meaningful analysis within the available budget while establishing a framework that can be expanded in the future.

Staff issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for professional engineering services to complete the Storm Sewer System Analysis on October 17, 2025. Ten firms submitted proposals on December 1, 2025. A selection committee evaluated each proposal based on the qualifications and criteria outlined in the RFP. The evaluation considered the firms' technical approach, relevant experience, understanding of the project, ability to meet the City's needs, and overall value.

The evaluation scores are as follows:

Firm	Score (100 max)	Fee	Rank
HDR	**90.2**	**$490,370.00**	**1**
Strand	88.5	$527,540.00	2
Shive-Hattery	87.6	$540,000.00	3

MSA	87.2	$556,314.50	4
Bolton & Menk	85.1	$599,820.00	5
AECOM	84.5	$464,100.00	6
Stanley	84.2	$523,900.00	7
Snyder	83.8	$596,800.00	8
Kirkham Michael	80.1	$570,000.00	9
RDG	77.9	$545,868.00	10

HDR Engineering, Inc. of Omaha, Nebraska received the highest overall score and was ranked first among the responding firms. HDR's proposal demonstrates a strong understanding of Ames' stormwater system and proposes a comprehensive approach that includes field data evaluation, hydrologic and hydraulic modeling, system deficiency analysis, and development of a prioritized list of stormwater improvement projects for inclusion in future Capital Improvement Plans. The proposed scope builds upon the City's prior data collection efforts and focuses on the six identified study areas to efficiently use available funding.

A summary of revenue and projected expenses for the project is shown below:

Description	**Revenue**	**Expenses (estimated)**
Storm Water Utility Fund	$720,000	
Data Collection (to date)		$ 82,095
Administration (estimated)		50,000
Engineering (this Council action)		**490,370**
TOTAL	**$720,000**	**622,465**

Remaining revenue will be prioritized for future study areas.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the professional services agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. of Omaha, Nebraska for the Storm Sewer System Analysis in the amount not to exceed $490,370.

2. Do not approve the agreement and direct staff to delay or modify the scope of the Storm Sewer System Analysis.

3. Direct staff to reissue the RFP or revise the project approach.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Based on staff's evaluation using the above criteria, HDR Engineering, Inc. will provide the best value to the City for professional services for the Storm Sewer System Analysis. Approval of this agreement will allow the City to examine stormwater deficiencies within the identified study areas and to develop a prioritized, data-driven framework for future stormwater capital improvement projects aimed at reducing localized flooding and improving system reliability. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above**.**

ATTACHMENT(S):
Exhibit_A_Scope_Schedule_Fee.pdf
Exhibit_B_TERMS_AND_CONDITIONS.pdf
Storm_Sewer_System_Analysis_Ames_HDR_Agreement_Ver_25_1216a.pdf
Storm Sewer Analysis Map.pdf