


**TO:** Michael C. Van Milligen, City Manager

**FROM:** Gus Psihoyos, City Engineer 

**SUBJECT:** Consulting Engineering Services for the 17<sup>th</sup> Street/W. Locust Street Storm Sewer Improvements Project and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street/Kaufmann Ave Storm Sewer Improvement Project [CIP #264-2690]

**DATE:** June 13, 2017

### **INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this memo is to seek approval to negotiate and enter into a contract for IIW, PC to provide engineering services for the 17th Street/W. Locust Street Storm Sewer Improvements Project and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street/Kaufmann Ave Storm Sewer Improvement Project, both associated with the Community Development Block Grant Program Disaster Recovery - National Disaster Resiliency funds for the Bee Branch Watershed Flood Mitigation Project.

### **BACKGROUND**

On August 18, 2008, the City Council approved authorization to negotiate a professional services agreement with Strand for design and engineering services for the Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project (Project). On October 22, 2008, the City Manager executed an agreement with Strand.

In January 2016, the State was awarded \$95.7 million in HUD National Disaster Resiliency Competition grant funds. Per the award, the City of Dubuque is to receive \$23.1 million for storm water infrastructure improvements associated with the Bee Branch Watershed Flood Mitigation Project. The infrastructure improvements are as follows:

1. Bee Branch Railroad Culvert Infrastructure Improvements involving the installation of culverts from the Lower Bee Branch Creek, through Canadian Pacific Railway property, to the Upper Bee Branch north of Garfield Avenue;
2. 22nd Street/Kaufmann Ave Storm Sewer Improvements involving the installation of a large diameter storm sewer from 22nd & Elm up Kaufmann Avenue to the Kaufmann & Kane intersection. The work includes inlets and local sewer connections to the storm sewer and the complete reconstruction of the street and other underground utilities along street right-of-way corridor.

3. 17<sup>th</sup> Street/W. Locust Street Storm Sewer Improvements involving the installation of a 96-inch diameter pipe from the Lower Bee Branch Creek through the Canadian Pacific Railway tracks to 17<sup>th</sup> Street then to the west along 17<sup>th</sup> Street and finally west along W. Locust Street towards Angella St. The work includes inlets and local sewer connections to the storm sewer and the complete reconstruction of the street and other underground utilities along street right-of-way corridor.

In October of 2016, the City Council passed Resolution 362-16 authorizing the execution of the funding contract with the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) for the City's receipt of \$23,309,600.00 in Community Development Block Grant Program Disaster Recovery - National Disaster Resiliency funds for the Bee Branch Watershed Flood Mitigation Project.

The 22nd Street/ Kaufmann Ave Storm Sewer Improvements and the 17th Street/ W. Locust Street Storm Sewer Improvements are essentially street reconstruction projects, something City staff have extensive experience with. As a result, it is the City's intent to utilize current Engineering Department staff to prepare design and bid documents, as well as, oversee the actual construction of the improvements. However, due to the hard deadline to complete all of the improvements by June of 2021 and because the design will require certain specialty expertise (i. e. geotechnical engineering, environmental engineering, structural engineering, etc.), it is appropriate to select and enter into a contract with an engineering consulting firm to provide services on an as needed basis.

In December of 2016, the City Council authorized the release of an RFP and enter into contract negotiations with an engineering consulting firm to provide services as needed to provide the requisite engineering expertise for the design, bidding, and construction of the 22nd Street/ Kaufmann Ave Storm Sewer Improvements and the 17th Street/ W. Locust Street Storm Sewer Improvements and to ensure the completion of the improvements by the June of 2021 HUD National Disaster Resiliency Grant deadline.

## **DISCUSSION**

In March of 2017, the HUD Resiliency Infrastructure Projects RFP was released to the public. Because it was the City's intent to utilize current Engineering Department staff to prepare design and bid documents, as well as, oversee the actual construction of the improvements, the release of the RFP was delayed until the City finalized the FY2018 budget with its potential impacts to City staffing. This was done to help the potential consultant would better understand the scope of services to be performed by the City versus the potential consultant.

As outlined in the RFP, the selected consultant will provide surveying and engineering services as needed for the complete design and construction of the Improvements. While certain Engineering staff members will be assigned to help prepare the final design, bid documents, and observe construction of the Infrastructure Improvements, the RFP seeks a consultant to provide services such as geotechnical, environmental, structural

engineering services and generally assist Engineering staff to ensure completion of the improvements by the June 2021 deadline.

The City received seven (7) proposals:

1. Anderson-Bogert (Cedar Rapids, IA) with Terracon (Dubuque, IA), and Tallgrass Archeology, LLC (Iowa City, IA);
2. Fehr-Graham (Manchester, IA) with Braun Intertec (Cedar Rapids, IA);
3. HBK Engineering (Iowa City, IA), with Braun Intertec (Cedar Rapids, IA), Earth View Environmental (Coralville, IA), and Tallgrass Archeology, LLC (Iowa City, IA);
4. HR Green (Johnston, IA) with American Surveying & Engineering (Ames, IA), Ken Saiki Design (Madison, WI), Braun Intertec (Cedar Rapids, IA), Test America (Cedar Falls, IA), and Wapsi Valley Archeology (Anamosa, IA);
5. IIW, P.C. (Dubuque, IA) with WHKS & Company (East Dubuque, IL), Strand Associates (Madison, WI), Allender Butzke Engineers (Urbandale, IA), and Wapsi Valley Archeology (Anamosa, IA);
6. MSA Professional Services (Dubuque, IA) with Terracon (Dubuque, IA); and
7. Veenstra and Kimm (West Des Moines) with Smith Group JJR (Chicago, IL), Terracon (Dubuque, IA), and Tallgrass Archeology, LLC (Iowa City, IA).

The proposal review committee consisting of Assistant Director of Public Works Renee Tyler, Project Manager Steve Sampson-Brown, Civil Engineer Jon Dienst, Civil Engineer Deron Muehring, Grant Administrator John Tharp, and Purchasing Coordinator Tony Breitbach.

The proposal review committee rated all of the firms based on the proposed project team's level of professional competence and a proven track record in designing large-scale storm sewer and street projects in a developed, urban environment; applying sustainability principles to design; applying for and obtaining permits that may be required for this project; designing projects that result in bids within the established project budget; working on municipal capital improvement projects in Iowa; working with Iowa's CDBG program; and coordinating work with the public and City officials. Ratings were also based on the proposed project team's experience working together on similar projects. Finally, ratings were based on the quality of the proposal based on demonstrated understanding of the City's overall objectives; design approach/methodology in completing scope of service; knowledge of the project site that would influence the engineering design; proposed schedule and ability to adjust schedules in order to coordinated development of work product; creativity and problem solving ability; ability to demonstrate initiative and motivation; and local economic impact.

The proposal review committee also reviewed each fee proposal. As stated in the RFP, the entirety of the scope of services to be provided cannot be quantified at the time of submitting a proposal as it will depend on City Engineering staff availability and ultimately how the project improvement plans may be divided, truncated, phased, or expanded at the sole discretion of the City of Dubuque. However, the RFP did ask each consultant to outline the means and methods by which the consultant will provide the scope of services outlined in the RFP.

Based on raw numbers, the proposed fees were as follows:

V&K	\$ 950,500.00
Fehr-Graham	\$1,260,000.00
HBK	\$1,330,000.00
Anderson-Bogert	\$1,572,500.00
IIW	\$1,771,600.00
HR Green	\$1,919,900.00
MSA	\$2,324,700.00

NOTE: Because not all consultants considered fees associated with Section 106 or Construction Staking, the figures do not include these fees.

Each committee member reviewed and ranked the proposals and shared their top three ranked firms. IIW was the only firm ranked in the top three of all committee members. HR Green was ranked in the top three by 4 of 6 committee members. Anderson-Bogert and V&K were both ranked in the top three by 3 of 6 committee members. MSA was in top three by 2 of 6 and HBK was in 1 of 6. Based on the discussion that followed, the committee formed the consensus to interview IIW, HR Green, Anderson-Bogert, and V&K.

Following the interviews, the proposal review committee thoughtfully considered the strengths and weaknesses of the teams and ranked them. By a unanimous consensus, the committee deemed IIW to have submitted the top proposal, followed by HR Green, then V&K, and finally Anderson-Bogert.

Each consultant was also asked to provide a breakdown of the cost for each task by hour by staffer who would be assigned to the task and their corresponding charge rate per hour. When this is considered, the proposed fee per hour worked for the top four firms is as follows:

	<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	<b>FEES</b>	<b>AGGREGATE RATE/HOUR</b>
Anderson-Bogert	12,481	\$1,520,851.00	\$122 per hour
V&K	7,948	\$ 997,002.00	\$126 per hour
HR Green	15,009	\$1,947,900.00	\$130 per hour
IIW	13,339	\$1,736,807.09	\$130 per hour

NOTE: Total Hours based and fees based on detailed work breakdown provided by consultants. Some consultants did not provide minor sub-consultant fees in the breakdown.

The reason that V&K's total fee proposal was less than the other responders is due to the number of hours (7,948) they anticipated as being required to complete the work.

The IIW team with WHKS and Strand Associates has extensive knowledge of the challenges associated with infrastructure projects in the City of Dubuque. They have a general understanding of traffic patterns, business needs, water distribution needs, and sanitary sewer collection system needs.

## **BUDGET IMPACT**

The adopted Fiscal Year 2017- 2021 Capital Improvement Program Budget included:

- \$3,900,000 for the 22nd Street Storm Sewer Improvements Project (Phase 8 of the Bee Branch Watershed Flood Mitigation Project) to improve the storm sewer system from Elm Street to Central Avenue. The HUD National Disaster Resiliency grant funding provides for an additional \$ 11,500,000 for the project improvements to extend westward along Kaufmann Avenue all the way to Kane Street. The \$15,400,000 established for the improvements includes \$2,000,000 for engineering; and
- \$8,681,000 for the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Storm Sewer Improvements Project (Phase 12 of the Bee Branch Watershed Flood Mitigation Project) to improve the storm sewer system from the Lower Bee Branch along 17th Street to W. Locust Street. The HUD National Disaster Resiliency grant provides for an additional \$2,600,000 for the project improvements to extend westward along W. Locust Street towards Angella Street. The \$11,281,000 established for the improvements includes \$1,440,000 for engineering.

The engineering services will be covered using \$23,309,600.00 in Community Development Block Grant Program Disaster Recovery - National Disaster Resiliency funds for the Bee Branch Watershed Flood Mitigation Project.

## **ACTION TO BE TAKEN**

I respectfully request authorization to negotiate and enter into a contract with IIW, PC to provide engineering services for the 17th Street/W. Locust Street Storm Sewer Improvements Project and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street/Kaufmann Ave Storm Sewer Improvement Project

Prepared by Deron Muehring

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