

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
DES MOINES, IOWA**

**CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 96-340
AUGUST 19, 1996 AGENDA**

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PUBLIC TECHNOLOGY, INC. — CONSULTING SERVICES FOR CITY'S INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY NEEDS	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	LAURA ISENSTEIN, RICK CLARK CO-CHAIRS, DATA MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

SYNOPSIS —

The City will contract with Public Technology, Inc. (PTI) to provide technical assistance and guidance to the City Manager's Data Management and Communications Committee. That committee, comprised of representatives from each City operating department, is charged with the responsibility to design and recommend an implementation schedule for establishment of a comprehensive, integrated Citywide data and communications system. PTI will assist the committee in completing its task by providing information and insight into how other local governments have addressed similar issues and help focus on a strategy and planning process which can be successfully implemented upon completion of the study.

FISCAL IMPACT —

The total contract cost will be \$15,100. Funding will be derived from the General Fund's allocation for training and management development established within the City's FY1996-97 Operating Budget.

RECOMMENDATION —

Approval.

BACKGROUND —

The City Manager has established a Data Management and Communications Committee comprised of representatives from all City operating departments. This group has been charged with the responsibility of designing and recommending an implementation schedule for establishment of a comprehensive, organization-wide communication and data management system that supports all local government activities and provides enhanced service to the public.

Their efforts will address all voice, text, graphic, and data management system needs and will serve as the blueprint for establishing a system that can effectively be developed and implemented throughout our total City government organization. Meeting since June, the committee has sought assistance in helping them to address the myriad of issues that confront a complex organization.

To date, the group has discussed a number of issues that impact our ability to effectively meet internal information needs, as well as provide enhanced service to the general public. The general consensus of the group is that, given the complexity of the issues involved, it would be helpful to engage a consulting group to assist with this effort. After meeting with several different consultants, the group believes that PTI can provide cost-effective assistance in reviewing these issues and formulating final recommendations for the City Council.

PTI is a nonprofit organization comprised of progressive and entrepreneurial city and county governments throughout the United States. PTI is sponsored by the three major national local government associations: the National League of Cities (NLC), the National Association of Counties (NACo), and the International City Management Association (ICMA). As part of this contract, they will bring to Des Moines two or three highly qualified professionals within the local government information technology field, and will undertake an intensive review of City information and management needs and work with the appointed committee to develop a strategy to address those needs.

PTI will review both the City's use of computer technologies and applications throughout our organization, and our approach to information technology, including development of a master plan and establishment of long-range priorities and needs within the information technology field. They will also review the adequacy of present data and communications systems and make recommendations concerning how to strengthen the City's available information technology tools.

Implementation Schedule

Upon approval of the City Council, it is anticipated that PTI staff will visit Des Moines during late September. Working in concert with the City Manager's Data Management and Communications Committee, we project that the committee will complete and forward to the City Council their final recommendations during December 1996.