

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**ITEM \_\_\_\_\_**

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

**99-019**

**SYNOPSIS -**

**AGENDA:**

JANUARY 25, 1999

An agreement has been negotiated with the engineering firm of Veenstra & Kimm, Inc. (H. R. Veenstra Jr., President, 3000 Westown Parkway, West Des Moines, Iowa 50266-1320) to perform professional services in connection with the design services for the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Flow Metering Installation.

**SUBJECT:**

PROFESSIONAL  
SERVICES  
AGREEMENT WITH  
VEENSTRA & KIMM,  
INC. - CSO FLOW  
METERING  
INSTALLATION

**FISCAL IMPACT -**

The agreement is based on the actual costs incurred for direct labor, indirect costs, and other direct costs, but exclude a fixed fee of \$76,940. The fixed fee will be \$10,002, with a total maximum compensation package of \$86,942. Funding for this project is provided for in account number 378364 of the Fiscal Year 1999 Capital Improvement Program, Page 254, CSO Flow Meter Installation.

**TYPE:**

**RESOLUTION  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE**

**RECOMMENDATION -**

**Approval.**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

FLOYD BENTZ, P.E.  
ACTING CITY  
ENGINEER

**BACKGROUND -**

On August 18, 1998, requests for proposals were sent to the six consulting firms that are experienced in the analysis of combined sewer flow problems. On September 4, 1998, proposals from three consulting firms were received. The selection committee consisted of Harold Smith, City Engineer; Lloyd Witte, Principal Civil Engineer; Roger Schletzbaum, Storm Water Utility Administrator; Lee Boisen, Sewer Maintenance Administrator; and David Miller, Senior Civil Engineer, who independently ranked the firms submitting proposals in the following order:

1. Veenstra & Kimm, Inc.
2. Montgomery Watson
3. Stanley Consultants, Inc.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) amended the Clean Water Act to require cities with combined sewer overflows to comply with nine minimum requirements prior to January 1, 1997. The State of Iowa administers these requirements and has not included these requirements in past National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Program (NPDES) permits for the City of Des Moines, but will place these requirements in the permit currently being negotiated. One of the primary requirements of the new permit will be the monitoring and reporting of all flow discharges from the permitted combined sewer overflows.

The three responsive consulting firms all proposed adequate methods for installing the monitoring equipment at the overflow sites. Veenstra & Kimm, Inc. has the most experience in designing and installing radio systems that communicate with the current telemetry equipment operated by City staff.

The proposal by Veenstra & Kimm, Inc. indicated a superior understanding of the project and included the evaluation of several smaller combined sewer overflow sites in order to determine if the total elimination of these sites is possible, which is the ultimate goal of the Clean Water Act. The other two firms indicated that the evaluation for total elimination of some sites was possible, but this was not included in their proposal price. Very little detail was provided by the second and third firms as to how the study of sites to be eliminated would be accomplished. Therefore, Veenstra & Kimm, Inc. was unanimously chosen by the selection committee.