



**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

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

99-549

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

DECEMBER 20, 1999

SUBJECT:

PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMUNICATIONS
IMPROVEMENTS -
PROFESSIONAL
CONSULTING
SERVICE

At the Council's direction, proposals for professional services to assist with needed public safety communications improvements have been received and reviewed. Three finalists were interviewed. The selection committee recommends that RCC Consultants, Inc. (100 Woodbridge Center Drive, Suite 201, Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095-1106, Mr. Michael W. Hunter, President) be selected as the best qualified firm to provide these services and approval be given to enter into a contract with the company for initial design services as outlined in the request for proposal (RFP).

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

FISCAL IMPACT -

This is the first part of a \$3,450,000 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) project for public safety communications improvements. The cost for design services is \$106,583. Funds are available in the CIP budget (#34744, page 171).

SUBMITTED BY:

MICHAEL
ARMSTRONG
IT DIRECTOR

WILLIAM H.
MOULDER
CHIEF OF POLICE

RONALD
WAKEHAM
FIRE CHIEF

RECOMMENDATION -

Approval.

BACKGROUND -

On September 13, 1999, by Roll Call No. 99-2846, Council approved an RFP for consulting services and directed the Public Safety Communications Committee to select a consulting firm to provide professional services to the City to assist with the design, development, and implementation of needed public safety communications improvements.

These improvements include a new computer aided dispatch and records management system, replacement of radio

consoles, review of current police and fire voice systems to consider feasibility of 800 MHz trunked technology, improvements in radio communications between local police and fire departments, a new fire equipment status system, improvements to the voice radio system and a city-wide mobile data system.

The RFP was sent out September 21, 1999, to eight companies. On November 1, 1999, proposals were received from four companies. The selection committee met twice to review and evaluate the proposals. Three finalists were selected in accordance with the RFP.

Attached is a summary of the combined scores from the four members of the selection committee. Based on the evaluation criteria in the RFP, RCC Consultants, Inc. was selected as the company best able to provide the services.

The other two firms scored less for various reasons. Dorsey-Pages and Elert & Associates have less experience than RCC, especially with larger cities. Also, they both had less staff and fewer corporate resources to assign to the project. Dorsey-Pages lacked experience with radio issues when compared to the other two companies. Elert & Associates lacked experience on computer issues. RCC Consultants, Inc. was very strong in both areas. Elert & Associates may also be unable to meet the City's schedule.

RCC Consultants, Inc. has tremendous breadth and depth of knowledge in both the radio and computer aspects of the project. They have a great deal of experience with jurisdictions our size and larger. They have demonstrated ability with extensive in-house resources available to our project. They are extremely well informed of developments in the industry and without question, are the best qualified firm to provide the service.

Attachment



