CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION:

02-210

AGENDA:

APRIL 22, 2002

SUBJECT:

REQUEST TO ISSUE RFP FOR AN AUTOMATED ROUTING SYSTEM

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

SUBMITTED BY:

WILLIAM STOWE
PUBLIC WORKS
DIRECTOR

ITEM _____

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA

SYNOPSIS -

The Public Works Department provides a broad range of municipal services which involve detailed routing to ensure efficiency and effectiveness such as solid waste and recyclables collection, sewer cleaning, and snow removal. In order to decrease the time required with rerouting and increase overall route efficiency, the department is requesting permission to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for procurement of an automated routing system. The automated routing system would help balance routes, minimize travel distances, and help facilitate operational changes such as automated solid waste collection.

FISCAL IMPACT -

The estimated cost for an automated routing system is $20,000. Funding is provided jointly from the Solid Waste and Sewer Maintenance Enterprise Accounts.

RECOMMENDATION -

Authorize the Public Works Director to issue a RFP for an automated routing system for use by the Public Works Department as well as other City departments where applicable.

BACKGROUND -

Day-to-day operations in the Public Works Department require the ongoing routing and rerouting of personnel, equipment, and materials to provide services in an efficient and effective manner. Presently, routing is performed manually consuming an inordinate amount of staff time and, in turn, delaying the implementation of operational changes. Over the years, the Public Works Department has developed solid waste collection routes, curbside recycling routes, snow plowing routes, and sewer cleaning routes. To assist with the balancing of those

	routes, the department is seeking authorization to proceed with a RFP for an automated routing system. The RFP would include the software, hardware, and implementation support. It is anticipated that the system would generate efficient municipal service routes with minimal manual intervention. The system would allow for modification of routes based on such criteria as length, work day, house counts, and workload. It is anticipated that the software may have other applications such as routing HEAT-generated requests for bulk waste and appliance collections.