

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

02-286

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

AGENDA:

JUNE 3, 2002

SYNOPSIS -

On April 26, 2002, the City sent bid packages to four rock salt companies to supply the salt needed for the winter snow and ice control season. The City received a single bid for delivery via closed hopper rail cars from Independent Salt Company (M.D. Keener, Owner/President, P.O. Box 36, Kanapolis, Kansas).

SUBJECT:

SINGLE BID FOR
ROCK SALT

FISCAL IMPACT -

Funding is available in the Public Works Department's Operating Budget for the purchase of \$200,000 worth of required rock salt. Additional funding is available by expending street maintenance funds.

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

RECOMMENDATION -

SUBMITTED BY:

Approval.

WILLIAM STOWE
PUBLIC WORKS
DIRECTOR

BACKGROUND -

The City of Des Moines' snow and ice control policy provides for the use of chemicals and abrasives to reduce driving hazards. Rock salt is the primary product used to melt snow and reduce bonding of ice and snow to the roadway.

To ensure an adequate supply of rock salt, the City of Des Moines takes annual bids on the product. While several companies provide rock salt at varying costs, historically the City's supplier has been Independent Salt Company out of Kanapolis, Kansas. This year, under Bid V02-158, Independent Salt Company was the only respondent bidder out of four who received bid packages. This year's bid price by Independent Salt was \$24.90 per ton compared with last year's price of \$25 per ton. Therefore, staff recommends award of the bid to Independent Salt Company. Upon award of the bid, the Public Works

Department will place orders with Independent Salt Company to ensure an adequate supply of rock salt for this year's snow and ice control operations.
