



**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

02-322

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

AGENDA:

SYNOPSIS -

JUNE 17, 2002

To reduce the backlog of storm sewer construction projects under \$50,000 and to complete scheduled sanitary sewer repairs, the Public Works Department obtained written quotes for rental of a hydraulic excavator totaling \$18,000 in the fall of 2001. Failure in the Northwest Outfall Sanitary Sewer this spring, however, required a \$4,500 change order to the original purchase order. Additional emergency sanitary sewer work beyond the Northwest Outfall has now caused the rental of the excavator to exceed the \$25,000 threshold which requires Council approval. Therefore, staff is requesting waiver of the competitive bid process and approval to pay a total of \$31,500 under Purchase Order No. 8019 for rental of the hydraulic excavator.

SUBJECT:

REQUEST TO
APPROVE
PAYMENT OF
RENTAL CHARGES

TYPE:

FISCAL IMPACT -

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

Funding for payment of the rental charges is currently available in the Public Works Department's sewer maintenance Operating Budget.

SUBMITTED BY:

RECOMMENDATION -

WILLIAM STOWE
PUBLIC WORKS
DIRECTOR

Approval.

BACKGROUND -

The backlog of storm sewer construction projects and scheduled sanitary sewer repairs reflect the need for a hydraulic excavator in the Sewer Maintenance Division of the Public Works Department. Pending purchase of an excavator, the Department received written quotes and rented a unit under Purchase Order No. 8019 in the fall of 2001. When a sanitary sewer failed this spring in the Northwest Outfall, a change order was issued to the original purchase order. Completion of the emergency sewer repair was followed by additional sanitary sewer breakdowns in the vicinity of Polk Boulevard, East 15th and Court, and 5th and Cherry. To avoid the more costly option

of contracted repair, the Public Works Department continued to rent the hydraulic excavator and completed the repairs.

Total rental charges have now exceeded the \$25,000 threshold which requires Council approval. The total cost for rental of the unit is \$31,500. No further rental is anticipated based on completion of a competitive bid process wherein the Public Works Department will be purchasing a hydraulic excavator under a separate agenda item at the Council meeting of June 17, 2002.
