

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

02-493

AGENDA:

SEPTEMBER 23,
2002

SUBJECT:

BID # V02-165 –
MOWING
EQUIPMENT

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

SUBMITTED BY:

DONALD M. TRIPP
PARK AND
RECREATION
DIRECTOR

ITEM 49C

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

SYNOPSIS —

The Park and Recreation Department requested the Purchasing Division solicit bids for five finish mowers and one outfront rotary mower for use by the Horticulture Division. The low bid failed to meet key specifications on the finish mowers. It is recommended the bid be awarded to the second low bidder, Quad County Implement, Inc. (Tom Less, President, 2116 - 76th Street, Blainstown, IA 52209). It is further recommended that the low bid for the outfront rotary mower by Great American Outdoor (Don VanHouweling, President, 710 East Army Post Road, Des Moines, IA 50315) be accepted.

FISCAL IMPACT —

The cost to replace five finish mowers totals \$12,195. The cost to replace the outfront rotary mower totals \$20,195. Budgeted equipment has trade-in units for all of the finish mowers and the outfront rotary mower. The Fund Code is IS201; Account Code: 544070; Organization Code: FIN200000.

RECOMMENDATION —

Approval to accept the compliant bid for five finish mowers submitted by Quad County Implement and accept the low complaint bid for the outfront rotary mower by Great American Outdoor.

BACKGROUND —

The Purchasing Division solicited bids to nine potential bidders with seven bids received. The low bid posed a significant safety hazard. It is recommended that the low bid be rejected and the second low bid by Quad County Implement be accepted. The low bid unit would require that additional weight be placed on the front end of our tractors in order to keep the equipment stable. Similarly, the additional 18 inches in length makes the units more cumbersome to handle, and given the size of our tractors, has a negative impact on stability.

In addition, the low bid unit is not compatible with accessories that we currently own. Most notably, the unit is incompatible with our leaf



mulchers.