

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**02-505**

**AGENDA:**

SEPTEMBER 23,  
2002

**SUBJECT:**

REQUEST TO  
ISSUE RFP FOR  
THE USE OF  
TRAFFIC CONTROL  
SAFETY DEVICES

**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 the use of traffic control safety devices such as blinkers, barricades, arrow boards, and signs that not only direct vehicular traffic but also help protect City employees performing street and sewer repairs. The Public Works Department currently constructs, delivers, places, and maintains these devices for in-house use. To explore the possibility of reducing overall costs, the Public Works Department is requesting permission to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) to identify alternative ways of supplying required traffic control safety devices.

**FISCAL IMPACT —**

Currently the Public Works Department spends approximately \$75,000 annually providing traffic control safety devices. If approved, any potential savings will be determined after RFPs have been collected. Funding for the use of traffic control devices is available in the Sewer Maintenance Enterprise and Street Maintenance operating budgets.

**RECOMMENDATION —**

**Authorize the Public Works Director to issue an RFP for an annual contract for the provision of traffic control safety devices.**

**BACKGROUND —**

Day-to-day operations in the Public Works Department require the ongoing use of traffic control safety devices such as blinkers, barricades, arrow boards, and signs to protect the public and City workers while essential maintenance on the City's infrastructure is performed.

Although the Public Works Department has historically constructed and maintained traffic control devices in-house, several private companies now provide such services to both private and public entities. Therefore, the opportunity exists to potentially reduce overall costs by soliciting proposals for the provision of these services.

