

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**02-507**

**AGENDA:**

SEPTEMBER 23, 2002

**SUBJECT:**

AUTOMATED  
ROUTING SYSTEM  
SOFTWARE

**TYPE:**

**RESOLUTION  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

WILLIAM STOWE  
PUBLIC WORKS  
DIRECTOR

**ITEM49J**

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

**SYNOPSIS —**

In December, 2001, the Public Works Department began exploring the feasibility of utilizing automated routing systems software to balance routes, minimize travel time, and facilitate the implementation of automated solid waste collection. A preliminary review showed that Route Smart Technologies, Inc. was a primary supplier of the desired software and that its product was already in use in Davenport, Iowa. An on-site visit to Davenport revealed that they were very satisfied with Route Smart and considered them a sole source for routing software. Prior to recommending a sole source purchase, the Public Works Department requested authorization to issue an Request for Proposal (RFP) to identify other potential vendors of automated routing systems.

On April 2, 2002, by Roll Call 02-1708, the City Council authorized issuance of an RFP for an automated routing system. Twenty-six invitations to bid were mailed; only one bid, that was submitted by Route Smart, was received. Following careful review by the RFP committee, award of the bid to the sole respondent, Route Smart Technologies, Inc., 8850 Stanford Boulevard, Suite 2600, Columbia, Missouri 21045 (George Fagan, President), is recommended.

**FISCAL IMPACT —**

Funding for the automated routing system software in the amount of \$32,900 is available in the Solid Waste and Sewer Maintenance Enterprise Accounts.

**RECOMMENDATION —**

**Approval.**

**BACKGROUND —**

The automated routing system RFP was developed to secure software to route personnel, equipment, and materials to provide efficient services. Routing software facilitates the modification of routes based on criteria such as distance, length of day, house counts, and workload. Rather than recommend a sole source, the Public Works Department recommended issuance of an RFP.

	<p>A list of possible vendors was obtained from the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences. Of the 26 companies mailed invitations to bid, the sole respondent was Route Smart Technologies, Inc. of Columbia, Missouri.</p> <p>Route Smart's software is currently in use in several municipalities including Davenport, Iowa, Kansas City, Missouri, and Olathe, Kansas. On-site visits to Davenport revealed that Route Smart's software performs as required. Davenport officials procured Route Smart on a sole source basis and are very satisfied with its performance. Calls by the RFP committee to Kansas City and Olathe revealed similar satisfaction on their part.</p> <p>Route Smart's bid of \$32,900 includes customer support and training packages determined necessary by the RFP committee.</p>
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