

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

02-605

AGENDA:

NOVEMBER 18,
2002

SUBJECT:

SINGLE BID FOR
STREET
SWEEPERS

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

SUBMITTED BY:

WILLIAM STOWE
PUBLIC WORKS
DIRECTOR

ITEM 41-B

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

SYNOPSIS —

On August 16, 2002, the City sent bid packages to seven equipment dealers to provide prices for the replacement of three street sweepers. The City received a single bid from Road Machinery and Supplies Company (Mike Sill, II, President, 100 Sheridan Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa) in the amount of \$236,230 after trade-in.

FISCAL IMPACT —

Funding is currently available in the Public Works Department's operating budget and the City's equipment replacement fund.

RECOMMENDATION —

Approval.

BACKGROUND —

The Public Works Department maintains a fleet of self-propelled street sweepers to clean the City's 2200 lane miles of streets to facilitate traction and to reduce the amount of debris washed into storm sewer intakes throughout the city. Arterial streets are swept 12 times a year, residential streets are swept 7 times a year, and the downtown loop area is swept approximately 40 times a year. During the fall, street sweeping operations extend to two 10-hour shifts to remove over 10,000 cubic yards of leaves from Des Moines streets.

The number of viable bidders for street sweeping equipment has been dwindling. Two years ago, only two bidders responded. A call to the one that failed to bid this time revealed that they considered their alternate technology too expensive to bid. Consequently, they elected not to bid. Despite a single bidder, the sweeper prices proposed are competitive, based on a survey of other cities.

The City is currently using this type of street sweeper and, therefore, recommends approval of the purchase from Road Machinery.

