

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

02-634

AGENDA:

DECEMBER 16, 2002

SUBJECT:

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 —

On September 23, 2002, by Roll Call No. 02-2330, Council authorized the Public Works Department to proceed with issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for traffic control safety devices. Three invitations to bid were mailed, one bid was received. Staff's review of the bid from Bonnie's Barricades (1547 Michigan Street, Des Moines, Iowa, Bonnie Ruggless, President) revealed that renting directional arrow boards would be more cost-effective than owning. In addition, the bid provides the opportunity to rent blinkers and barricades in the event that accelerated operations and/or emergency conditions deplete the City's inventory. Therefore, staff recommends award of the bid to Bonnie's Barricades for the rental of traffic control safety devices only on an as needed basis.

FISCAL IMPACT —

Funding for the rental of traffic control safety devices is currently available in the Sewer Maintenance Enterprise Account and the Street Maintenance Operating Budget.

RECOMMENDATION —

Approval.

BACKGROUND —

Day-to-day operations in the Public Works Department require the ongoing use of traffic control safety devices such as blinkers, 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, an opportunity existed to potentially reduce overall costs by soliciting proposals for the provision of these services.

Upon review of the proposal by Bonnie's Barricades, the RFP Committee determined that of the four areas identified for potential savings – A) Purchase of equipment; B) Rental prices of equipment; C) Hourly rates of service for repair; and D) Hourly rates of service for installation and removal of equipment in conjunction with construction work, only rental provides a potential for cost savings. Therefore, it is staff's recommendation to award the bid to Bonnie's



Barricades for the rental of traffic control safety devices on an as needed basis only.