

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

03-233

AGENDA:

MAY 19, 2003

SUBJECT:

PROFESSIONAL
SERVICES
AGREEMENT—S.W. 9th
STREET VIADUCT
OVER MARTIN
LUTHER KING, JR.
PARKWAY AND
UNIVERSITY AVENUE
BRIDGE OVER THE
DES MOINES RIVER

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

SUBMITTED BY:

JEB E. BREWER, P.E.
CITY ENGINEER

ITEM _____

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

SYNOPSIS —

Approving Professional Services Agreement with Shuck-Britson, Inc. (Robert A. Britson, President, 2409 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA, 50312) to provide engineering services for a structural evaluation report and final design of the rehabilitation of the S.W. 9th Street Viaduct over Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Parkway and the University Avenue Bridge over the Des Moines River.

FISCAL IMPACT —

Funding for these services in the amount of \$262,114 is available in the 2003-04 Capital Improvements Program (CIP), Index Code 323444, Account 543010, Fund CP032, Organization ENG990000, Project BRV034, S.W. 9th Street Viaduct over MLK Parkway; and Index Code 323642, Account 543010, Fund CP032, Organization ENG990000, Project BRV036, University Avenue Bridge over the Des Moines River.

RECOMMENDATION —

Approval.

BACKGROUND —

On November 6, 2000, by Roll Call No. 00-4291, the City Council authorized the City Manager to submit an application to the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds for rehabilitation of the University Avenue Bridge over the Des Moines River. Subsequently, the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) approved funding of 80 percent of the construction cost up to a maximum of \$432,000. Also, on July 8, 2002, by Roll Call No. 02-1651, the City Council approved an agreement with IDOT for rehabilitation of the S.W. 9th Street Viaduct over MLK Parkway through the use of funding from the Federal Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program. This agreement provides for 80 percent federal participation in the project costs, up to a maximum of \$1,000,000.

In March of 2003, Requests for Proposals (RFPs) were sent to ten design firms requesting structural evaluation phase, design phase, and construction administration phase services for one or both bridges. Six consulting firms submitted a proposal for the S.W. 9th Street Viaduct over MLK Parkway, and four consulting firms submitted a proposal for the University Avenue Bridge

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over the Des Moines River. An independent committee, with members from the Public Works Department, Engineering Department, and Traffic and Transportation Division evaluated the proposals received and recommended two firms be interviewed. On May 7, 2003, interviews were conducted with Shuck-Britson, Inc. of Des Moines and WHKS & Co. of Ames, Iowa. Both firms were well qualified and indicated during the interview that a cost savings of 5-8 percent could be realized if one firm provided design for both bridges. There is also potential cost savings if the bridges are rehabilitated as a single contract, or as a tied contract, which must be coordinated by a single consultant. Shuck-Britson has previously worked on both of the bridges and has demonstrated a clear understanding of the construction of both bridges, especially the hollow-core slabs on the University Avenue Bridge, and probable rehabilitation for each bridge. Shuck-Britson, Inc. is located in Des Moines. It was felt by the committee that they were the best firm to perform the engineering services on both bridges.

