



Agenda Item:

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## COUNCIL COMMUNICATION City Manager's Office

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda Date: 06/06/05

Communication

No.: 05-324

Agenda Item Type: Resolution

Roll Call

No.:

Submitted by: Jeb E. Brewer, P.E., City Engineer  
William G. Stowe, Director, Public Works

### SUBJECT—

Approving plans, specifications, form of contract documents, and engineer's estimate on University Avenue Bridge over the Des Moines River Arch Rehabilitation; submission of bids; and designation of lowest responsible, responsive bidder as Cramer & Associates, Inc. (Robert Cramer, President/CAO, Des Moines, Iowa) for \$1,463,991.40.

### SYNOPSIS—

On May 17, 2005, bids were received by the Iowa Department of Transportation for the University Avenue Bridge over the Des Moines River Arch Rehabilitation. Only one bid was received from Cramer & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$1,463,991.40.

### FISCAL IMPACT—

Funding for this project, which includes \$1,000,000 in Federal Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation funds and \$164,000 in G.O. Bonds, is available in the University Avenue Bridge over the Des Moines River project in the Capital Improvements Program, Page BRV-11, Fund CP032, Organization ENG990000, Project BRV036, with a \$300,000 transfer from the Park Avenue Widening – S.W. 42<sup>nd</sup> Street to S.W. 56<sup>th</sup> Street project, Page STR-34, Fund CP038, Organization ENG990000, Project STR202.

### RECOMMENDATION—

Approval

**BACKGROUND—**

The following is staff's response explaining possible reasons for receiving only one bid and justification for award of the construction contract:

Staff contacted two other contractors in the area who had taken out plan sets, and they both stated that the reason that they did not submit a bid was because of scheduling conflicts. Our structural consultant and Engineering staff have reviewed the bid, and due to the complexity of the repairs and the large number of bridges being built in the Des Moines area, rebidding would delay the start of construction to 2006 and probably would result in higher bids. The bridge is a key detour route that is heavily utilized during I-235 reconstruction and the repairs should be made this year. This contract is a follow-up to the deck rehabilitation of the bridge done in 2004. The bids received for Park Avenue Widening were under the Engineer's estimate, therefore, funding can be transferred to the University Avenue Bridge over the Des Moines River Arch Rehabilitation. The IDOT, structural consultant, and staff recommend acceptance of Cramer & Associates, Inc.'s current bid of \$1,463,991.40.