



Agenda Item:

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COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

City Manager's Office

GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda Date: 09/26/05
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Communication No.: 05-546
Roll Call No.:

Submitted by: Merrill Stanley, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director
William G. Stowe, Public Works Director
Jeb E. Brewer, P.E., City Engineer

SUBJECT—

Approval of the City of Des Moines Official Street Finance Report for FY 2005.

SYNOPSIS—

Presentation of the City of Des Moines Official Street Finance Report for FY 2005 for approval and submittal to the Iowa Department of Transportation to continue the City's eligibility for Road Use Tax allotment. The report includes the annual report required by House File 324 showing the cost of day labor and public contracts for construction, reconstruction, and improvement projects on the municipal street system completed in FY 2005 and also the Road/Street Equipment inventory.

FISCAL IMPACT—

In FY 2005 the City of Des Moines received \$16.5 million in road use tax allotments. This report must be submitted to the Iowa Department of Transportation to continue the City's eligibility for Road Use Tax allotments.

RECOMMENDATION—

Approval

BACKGROUND—

The 2001 Iowa General Assembly passed House File 324, which requires cities and counties to report the following information to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) each year:

- The cost of day labor and public or private contracts for construction, reconstruction, and improvement projects on the farm-to-market, secondary road, and municipal street systems.
- The cost of purchasing, leasing, and renting construction and maintenance equipment.
- The use of this equipment for construction, reconstruction, and improvement projects on the various roads and street systems.

House File 324 states that cities with population over 50,000 shall advertise and let for bid and contract any public improvement that involves the construction, reconstruction, or improvement of a highway, bridge, or culvert that has an estimated total cost to the city in excess of \$50,000.

House File 324 does not apply to maintenance activities by the cities, which generated discussion statewide regarding the definition of maintenance activities. The IDOT developed complex and detailed rules to distinguish among construction, reconstruction, or improvement and maintenance activities with some examples as follows:

- Pavement resurfacing or overlays with Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) having a thickness of two inches or more but less than four inches for 500 feet or more in continuous length are classified as an Improvement; and as such must be bid and reported.
- Pavement resurfacing with a single lift of HMA less than two inches in thickness is classified as a Maintenance Activity, as is pavement resurfacing or overlays with HMA having a thickness of two inches or more for less than 500 continuous feet; and as such these projects do not have to be bid and do not need to be reported to the IDOT.

The IDOT rules state that the cities with population over 50,000 shall report projects completed in FY 2005 with estimated construction cost greater than \$45,000.

The Engineering Department has prepared the portion of the report showing the construction, reconstruction, or improvement projects that were advertised and let for bid and public contract. The report lists 21 projects completed in FY 2005 totaling \$14,612,110 that must be reported under the IDOT rules.

The Public Works Department has prepared the portion of the report showing the construction, reconstruction, or improvement projects that were constructed with day labor (work done by City forces). The report, which does not include maintenance activities, lists one project to be reported in FY 2005 under the IDOT rules. The Public Works Department also prepared the inventory of road/street equipment inventory.