



Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date

May 7, 2007

Agenda Item No. 43

Roll Call No. 07-

Communication No. 07-262

Submitted by: Larry Hulse, Community
Development Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval of contracts with G&M Electrical and Mechanical Contractors, Inc. and Best Heating, Cooling and Electric to perform low-income residential furnace repair and replacement for Community Development Department, Community Services Division.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of contracts to provide residential furnace and water heater replacement, furnace tune and clean, and furnace and central air conditioner repair services for qualified low-income persons as directed by the Community Development Department, Community Services Division. This contract will maintain safe heating systems in homes owned by qualified low-income families. Ten RFPs were mailed and four proposals were returned. The selection committee recommends one primary and one secondary contractor.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$120,000 (estimated on an annual basis)

Funding Sources:

- \$70,000 - LIHEAP contract with the Iowa Department of Human Rights/ Division of Community Action Agencies
- \$27,500 - City of Des Moines gas/electric utility franchise fees
- \$22,500 - I-CARE, MidAmerican customer contribution funds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Community Services Division operates as the Community Action Agency for the City of Des Moines. It is charged with providing services to the City's low-income families and trying to address and eliminate causes of poverty. The City became a public Community Action Agency (CAA) in 1977. Services are delivered through the downtown office in the Armory Building and the Forest Avenue, Logan, and Pioneer-Columbus Community Services site offices. The Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and United Way also provide funding to the City's Community Action efforts.

The beginnings of Community Action can be found in the signing of the federal Equal Opportunity Act in 1964. There are now 1,000 Community Action Agencies in the U.S and the City of Des Moines is one of eighteen Community Action Agencies serving Iowa.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE