



# Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date October 13, 2008

Agenda Item No. 42A  
Roll Call No. ~~08-~~  
Communication No. ~~08-604~~  
Submitted by: Donald M. Tripp  
Parks and Recreation Director

## AGENDA HEADING:

Approving bid from American Fence for Fence Replacement at Blank Park Zoo (8 bids mailed, 5 received).

## SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval to award Bid No. V09-31 to American Fence, Mark Wolodkewitsch, Plant Manager, 1922 Delaware Ave., Des Moines, Iowa, 50317 as the lowest compliant bidder for fence replacement of the African Exhibit at Blank Park Zoo. Accepting base bid and not including the alternate for black vinyl.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$63,524.25

Funding Source: CIP 2008-09/2013-14, Blank Park Zoo Improvements, PKS013 CP040 PKS990000, G. O. Bonds, Park Improvements – Page 4.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On February 16, 2005, by Roll Call No. 05-376, the City Council approved a 28E Agreement with the Blank Park Zoo Foundation for operation of the zoo. Under this agreement, the City is responsible for major capital repairs, replacement, and reconstruction of those facilities constructed prior to April 1, 2005. The Capital Improvement Program included funding for Blank Park Zoo Improvements to fulfill the obligations in the 28E Agreement. City staff and the Blank Park Zoo Foundation have reviewed the condition of the existing zoo infrastructure and identified several projects to address needed improvements. The fence and transfer area for the African Exhibit were identified as a priority in the current fiscal year CIP projects.

The existing African Exhibit fence has a few issues with regard to fence poles and fabric that have been damaged over the years. Staff at the zoo are also recommending enlarging the exhibit area to provide additional space for the giraffes and viewing areas for the public. The zoo recently went through an accreditation process of the Associations of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and this exhibit does not meet accreditation requirements. Currently the animal handlers walk the giraffes from the barn to the exhibit. This project would include a transfer area where the giraffes are corralled through a system of gates that keeps the animal handlers on the outside of the fence and from interacting with the animals which lessens any potential safety issues. This fence installation will be able to accommodate other animal species with the future plans of expansion of the zoo as part of the Superblock.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: February 16, 2005

Roll Call Number: 05-376

Action: Items regarding the AH Blank Park Zoo: (Council Communication No. 05-068) (A) Approving the 28E Operational Agreement. Moved by Brooks to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1

Date: May 5, 2003

Roll Call Number: 03-1089

Action: Intergovernmental 28E Agreement with Blank Park Zoo Foundation, Inc. for operation of the Blank Park Zoo. (Council Communication No. 03-217). Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1.

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Normal Council actions on consultant services for design, an agreement with the Des Moines Art Center, and professional service agreement for final design and construction phase services.

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