

Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date: September 26, 2011

Agenda Item No. 39B
Roll Call No. 11-1652
Communication No. 11-618

Submitted by: William G. Stowe,

Assistant City Manager

Public WorksDirector

AGENDA HEADING:

Procurement of bituminous fog seal application for use by the Street Maintenance Division of the Department of Public Works.

SYNOPSIS:

The procurement agent solicited bids for bituminous fog seal application under bid No. V12-016. Three bid packages were sent, and one company responded. The sole bid was received from Gee Asphalt Systems, Inc., 4715 6th St. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404, (Dan Gee, President) at a cost of \$1.35 per square yard for a total cost of \$44,250.00. Staff contacted the cities of Davenport and Ottumwa, who also bid this service this year, to compare the bid prices received. The City of Davenport received a bid of \$1.43 per square yard, and the City of Ottumwa received a bid of \$1.40 per square yard for comparable services. Based on this information, staff recommends the contract be awarded to Gee Asphalt Systems, Inc.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$44,250

Funding Source: 2011/2012 Street Maintenance Division Operating Budget, SP360 PWK040400, page

277.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The City of Des Moines expends approximately \$5 million annually to resurface an estimated 40 lane miles of streets. The Department of Public Works is recommending that newly resurfaced streets be treated with a bituminous fog seal to extend the service life of these new pavements and to reduce future maintenance costs, thereby protecting the large investment that the City has made in street infrastructure improvements.

This treatment was performed on a test basis in 2003 and 2004. In 2003, two streets (approx. 12,500 SY) were treated; and in 2004, six streets (approx. 11,500 SY) were treated. In 2010, Department of Public Works staff performed a visual inspection of the condition of these treated streets and compared them to the condition of non-treated streets that had been resurfaced at the same time. This inspection revealed that the streets treated with the GSB-88 bituminous fog seal, six to seven years previously, were in substantially better condition than the streets that were not treated. The GSB-88 bituminous fog seal

appears to:

- delay oxidation of the hot mix asphalt (HMA), resulting in a more flexible and longer lasting pavement
- prevent loss of fine aggregates in the HMA pavement surface, reducing spalling and raveling of the pavement
- extend the serviceable life of the pavement surface by four to six years

The GSB-88 bituminous fog seal is a pavement preservation method that is applied to HMA pavements that are still in good condition to keep them in good condition. It is most effective when applied within three years after the HMA pavement is placed. Studies have been performed by the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense, and other agencies on the effectiveness of this pavement preservation method. Study results have indicated that the method is effective in extending the service life of HMA pavement.

Based on our own experience with the GSB-88 bituminous fog seal and the results of the numerous studies that have been conducted nationwide, staff recommends approval.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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