

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: November 21, 2011
	Agenda Item No. 56 Roll Call No. [_____] Communication No. <u>11-701</u> Submitted by: Donald M. Tripp, Director of Park and Recreation

AGENDA HEADING:

Authorization to allow the City of Des Moines’ Procurement Division to solicit bids for mowing and trimming contracts.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approving authorization for the City of Des Moines’ Procurement Division to solicit bids for mowing and trimming contracts.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: The expense of the proposed contracted mowing will not be fully-known until completion of the bid process.

Savings to the Operating Budget for contracted mowing and trimming services and custodial services in parks has been \$822,198 in FY 2011.

Funding Source: FY2012 Operating Budget, Park and Recreation GE001 PKS070410 – PKS070440 (Horticultural Maintenance) pages 190 - 193, GE001 PKS010400 (Cemeteries) page 181

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On February 9, 2009, by Roll Call No. 09-154, the City Council awarded several Mowing and Trimming Contracts for parks, open spaces, boulevards, and other City properties.

With the current contracts expiring on December 31, 2011 and in conjunction with development of the City’s two-year budget, the Park and Recreation Department is requesting immediate consideration, with action to be taken prior to the end of this calendar year, on proposed changes and expansion of the specifications for these contracts. Rebidding this winter will assure the contracts are in place by spring.

Parks and Recreation staff is proposing adding the seven municipal cemeteries to the new contracts in addition to cost-reducing changes in specifications for parks, open spaces, boulevards, and other City properties previously contracted. Changes would include reduced mowing frequency and a 50% reduction in the number of trimming cycles.

Mowing at Glendale and Laurel Hill cemeteries is now performed by City personnel, and trimming is contracted out; both mowing and trimming is contracted out at the other five municipal cemeteries. As a cemetery budget-reducing strategy, Parks and Recreation staff is proposing that 1) the scope and specifications for contracted mowing and trimming be reduced in the five noted cemeteries as was

proposed above for City parks, boulevard, rights-of-way, etc., and 2) the City similarly contract out all mowing, in addition to the trimming, in Glendale and Laurel Hill.

The amount of savings to the budget through these proposed additions and changes to the mowing contracts will not be fully known until completion of the bid process. At the time that the low bids are presented to Council for approval, Park and Recreation staff will present full details of budgetary savings.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: January 11, 2010

Roll Call Number: 10-070

Action: [Termination](#) of existing mowing and trimming contract and approving new contract with A+ Lawn and Landscaping for 2 years with 3 one-year renewal options and authorizing City Manager to sign future renewals and to terminate based on failure to meet performance standards. ([Council Communication No. 10-001](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. All renewals will come back to Council for approval and staff will provide an annual report on performance. Motion Carried 5-2. Nays: Cownie and Moore

Date: February 9, 2009

Roll Call Number: 09-154

Action: [Proposals](#) for provision of mowing and trimming services. ([Council Communication No. 09-074](#)) Moved by Coleman to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: December 8, 2008

Roll Call Number: 08-2158

Action: [Issuance](#) of Request for Proposal (RFP) for the following: (Council Communication No. 08-731) (B) Mowing and trimming maintenance for parks, open spaces and boulevards. RFP Moved by Vlassis to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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