

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date:	July 28, 2014
	Agenda Item No.	46
	Roll Call No.	<u>14-1176</u>
	Communication No.	<u>14-368</u>
	Submitted by:	Jeb E. Brewer, P.E., City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Hearing on M. L. King, Jr. Parkway High-intensity Activated crossWalk (HAWK) signals - Carpenter Avenue to Hickman Road. Resolution approving plans, specifications, form of contract documents, engineer’s estimate, receive and file bids, and designating lowest responsible bidder as Baker Electric, Inc., Britt Baker, CEO, \$289,341.50.

SYNOPSIS:

This is a public hearing to allow for public input on the M. L. King, Jr. Parkway HAWK signals - Carpenter Avenue to Hickman Road and take the necessary actions as required by Iowa Code to authorize a contract for construction of the proposed project. This project will implement the recommendations of the Thrivent Neighborhood Traffic Study to address pedestrian safety. It includes the installation of two (2) pedestrian crossings with flashing HAWK signals on M. L. King, Jr. Parkway near Franklin Avenue and Lincoln Avenue along with real-time speed display signs on M. L. King, Jr. Parkway for northbound and southbound traffic. The project also includes traffic signal modifications at the intersections of M. L. King, Jr. Parkway at Forest Avenue and Carpenter Avenue and at the intersections of 19th Street at Forest Avenue and Carpenter Avenue including new vehicle signal heads and countdown pedestrian signals.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$289,341.50 Construction Contract (\$264,000 City Engineer's Estimate)

Funding Source: 2014-2015 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page Street - 38, Traffic Control Neighborhood Program, TR031, Being: \$240,000 (Max) in Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) Traffic Safety Improvement Program Funds; and the remaining \$49,341.50 G. O. Bonds.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On June 23, 2014, by Roll Call No. 14-0932, the City Council received and filed plans, specifications, form of contract documents, and City Engineer's estimate for the construction of the M. L. King, Jr. Parkway HAWK signals - Carpenter Avenue to Hickman Road. Before the City Council can enter into a contract, it must hold a public hearing and approve the proposed plans, specifications, and form of contract documents and engineer's estimate for the construction of the M. L. King, Jr. Parkway HAWK signals - Carpenter Avenue to Hickman Road, 04-2012-002. The improvement includes the installation of two (2) high-intensity activated crosswalk HAWK signals, two (2) real-time speed display signs, traffic signal modifications, sidewalk ramps, cross walk pavement markings, and other incidental items;

all in accordance with the contract documents, including Plan File Nos. 557/114-138, on M. L. King, Jr. Parkway and 19th Street from Carpenter Avenue to Hickman Road, Des Moines, Iowa.

Sealed bids for said improvement were submitted by the following bidders:

Baker Electric, Inc., Des Moines, IA

The bids were received and opened at a public meeting presided over by the City Engineer in the City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 400 Robert D. Ray Drive, Des Moines, Iowa at 11:00 a.m. on July 15, 2014.

Only one (1) bid was received, from Baker Electric, Inc. In addition to Baker Electric, Inc., there were 13 other plan holders that obtained plans from the City, and the contract documents were also sent to nine (9) plan rooms in seven (7) other states besides Iowa. Of the 14 plan holders, only one (1) bidder Baker Electric, Inc., indicated they would be a prime bidder. Telephone calls were made to two (2) other local signal contractors, Waldinger Corporation who was a plan holder, and Iowa Signal asking why they did not bid, and the responses received included:

Both cited their current workload as the primary reason for not bidding the project. Waldinger also indicated that they don't have some of the equipment needed for these types of jobs and that the M. L. King, Jr. corridor is somewhat difficult to work in. Iowa Signal said a second issue for them was the 30 working days. The 30 days didn't give them any cushion to complete their work when they are busy working on other projects as well.

A significant reason the project is desired to be completed by fall and not be delayed is the neighborhood staff has been working with the King Irving and Mondamin neighborhoods to improve walkability and address safety concerns along M. L. King, Jr. Parkway since a Traffic Safety Study was completed in March 2010. The results of this study were to lower the speed limit along M. L. King, Jr. Parkway, install new speed limit signs, request extra police enforcement, and apply for IDOT Traffic Safety Funds to install pedestrian crossing lights and real-time speed feedback signs along M. L. King, Jr. Parkway. The speed limit changes were made in 2010 and Traffic Safety funds were awarded for fiscal year (FY) 2012. Since that time, the Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART) has re-worked their bus routes that access this area of M. L. King, Jr. Parkway and the requirements in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for where pedestrian crossing signals changed. This required a re-work in 2013 to the original plan. Staff contacted the neighborhoods and has developed a revised plan to meet the new bus routes and the revised MUTCD requirements. This is an important improvement for the neighborhood and has been part of their plan since 2010.

The City Engineer has determined that the lowest responsive, responsible bid for the construction of said improvement was submitted by Baker Electric, Inc., Britt Baker, CEO, 111 Jackson Avenue, Des Moines, IA, 50315 in the amount of \$289,341.50, and said bid should be accepted. The Finance Director has determined that funds are available for said improvement as stated above.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: June 23, 2014

Roll Call Number: [14-0932](#)

Action: Ordering construction of the following:

- (B) M. L. King, Jr. Parkway HAWK Signals – Carpenter Avenue to Hickman Road: Receiving of bids, (7-15-14), Setting date of hearing, (7-28-14). Construction Estimate, \$264,000. ([Council Communication No. 14-288](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 5-2.

Date: July 11, 2011

Roll Call Number: [11-1180](#)

Action: [Approving](#) IDOT Agreement No. 2012-TS-007 for installation of various traffic signal-related improvements on Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway/19th Street between Carpenter Avenue and Hickman Road. ([Council Communication No. 11-444](#)) Moved by Meyer to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: June 14, 2010

Roll Call Number: [10-884](#)

Action: [Approving](#) FY2012 Traffic Safety Fund Applications to the IDOT. ([Council Communication No. 10-336](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Partial payments to the contractor and final acceptance of work.

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