

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date:	January 25, 2016
	Agenda Item No.	35
	Roll Call No.	<u>16-0136</u>
	Communication No.	<u>16-027</u>
	Submitted by:	Jonathan A. Gano, Public Works Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Request Purchasing Division to issue a purchase order for Portable Mortar Application Trailer manufactured by AP/M Permaform, PO Box 555, Johnston, Iowa 50131.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval for City’s Purchasing Agent to issue a purchase order for a Portable Mortar Application Trailer to AP/M Permaform, the sole area-wide distributor. Procurement to be exempted from the competitive bidding requirements for good cause shown, pursuant to Sections 2-710(a) of the Municipal Code of the City of Des Moines as reviewed by the City Manager’s Office.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$110,000

Funding Source: Sanitary Sewer Enterprise Fund, Maintenance Operations, EN101, PWK247411, Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Recommended Budget, page 219.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Mortar Trailer in the Sewer Maintenance fleet is targeted for replacement in this fiscal year. The current equipment is used by the Sewer Maintenance Division to apply a cementitious liner to rehabilitate deteriorating manholes and satisfies Fleet Maintenance criteria for replacement.

Meetings with Sewer Maintenance operations staff and Fleet Maintenance personnel resulted in a specification for the trailer replacement. These specifications were developed to meet the operational needs of the Sewer Maintenance Division and incorporate lessons learned from the ownership and operation of the current piece of equipment. Specific items addressed include: slide gate delivery of the mortar to the pump, a 3-stage progressive pump, an air driven application spinner, and a trailer mounted arm with an electric winch to raise and lower the application spinner.

These individual items were identified as being important based on operational and maintenance experience of the current mortar trailer and crew safety:

- The slide gate delivery will eliminate spillage from the hopper onto the trailer floor, which builds up and becomes a slip/trip hazard to crew members;

- The 3-stage progressive pump eliminates build-up of hardened material in the material delivery line. This has been a source of equipment failure and trailer down time in the current trailer, a unit equipped with a 2-stage pump;
- The air driven application spinner eliminates the use of a power cable being run to the spinner head. This spinner is washed down after each use and is constantly in use in a wet environment. The lack of electricity at the spinner head reduces potential for injury to employees; and
- The trailer mounted arm with the electric winch allows the trailer to be used without set up and tear down of a tripod mounted system at each manhole. This will not only take more time, but has the potential for injury with repetitive set up and tear down of the tripod.

Research by Fleet Maintenance personnel identified three (3) possible bidders for the replacement trailer: AP/M Permaform, Madewell and Quadex. Based on research into each of these manufacturers' equipment and conversations with manufacturer's representatives, Fleet Maintenance has produced the following matrix that indicates each manufacturer's ability to meet the specifications for the new mortar trailer:

Manufacturer:	AP/M Permaform	Madewell	Quadex
Mixer type	45 gallon vertical shaft	52 gallon horizontal shaft	45 gallon vertical shaft
Delivery to pump	Slide gate no tilt	*Tilting mixer drum	*Slide gate no tilt
Pump type	3-stage progressive	*2-stage progressive	*3-stage progressive
Pump drive	Hydraulic	*Hydraulic	*Hydraulic
Spinner drive	Air	*Air	*Electric
Spinner raise/lower	Trailer mount arm/ with electric winch	*Manual with optional air operated hose puller	*Tripod mount with electric winch
Number of power units & type	One (1) gas air comp & one (1) diesel hydraulic system.	Diesel runs all functions	Gas Generator, gas power washer, Diesel hydraulic system.
Water capacity	225 gallons	275 gallons	250 gallons

After review of this information, it has been determined that Madewell and Quadex would need to make exceptions to the specifications (exceptions in comparison matrix noted *), yielding only one (1) compliant bid from AP/M Permaform. Any exceptions by bidders to the noted * features in the comparison matrix would be considered greater-than-minor deviations and could not be deemed compliant.

Fleet staff also supports waiving competitive bidding requirements as the current AP/M Permaform technology to produce the functionality of the four (4) highlighted operational areas: Delivery to Pump, Pump drive, Spinner drive, and Spinner raise/lower has proven to be effective. Effectiveness, operational and maintenance costs of introducing new technology from the other two (2) potential suppliers is unknown.

The market for this kind of equipment is very small with a limited pool of manufacturers servicing this sector of the infrastructure industry.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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