


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	23-119	Meeting:	March 6, 2023
	Agenda Item:	8	Roll Call:	23-0280
	Submitted by:	Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving and adopting the Iowa Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) Design Manual, 2023 Edition, SUDAS Standard Specifications, 2023 Edition, and the City of Des Moines General Supplemental Specifications to the SUDAS Standard Specifications, 2023 Edition, as the official design standards and standard specifications and supplemental specifications for the City of Des Moines.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval and adoption of the latest editions of the SUDAS Manuals, which are known as the SUDAS Design Manual, 2023 Edition, and SUDAS Standard Specifications, 2023 Edition and the City of Des Moines General Supplemental Specifications to the SUDAS Standard Specifications, 2023 Edition, as the official design standards and standard specifications for construction of public improvements in the City and to be in effect beginning with all projects authorized by the City Council after March 6, 2023, which shall remain in effect until such time as they are further amended by this Council.

The SUDAS Design Manual and SUDAS Standard Specifications are statewide standards for design and construction of urban public improvements in Iowa, which are the product of a joint effort by many local jurisdictions to ensure that public improvements will function adequately, reduce maintenance problems, are durable and safe, and most of all, cost effective to the public within each jurisdiction using these design standards and standard specifications. City supplemental specifications supersede SUDAS standard specifications.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Reduced design and construction costs through uniformity, understanding, and acceptance by adopting updated statewide standards which includes reduction of contractor confusion and mistakes due to differing specifications and encouragement of more bidders.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The SUDAS Corporation has an extensive statewide district committee structure and various technical committees, all comprised of professional engineers representing Iowa stakeholders. Representatives from the City's Engineering and Public Works Departments participate in the various committees, and two (2) City of Des Moines representatives sit on the 37-member SUDAS Board of Directors. These committees meet to review the statewide standards for

design and construction of urban public improvements and recommend changes that need to be made due to regulatory changes, changes of materials, improved construction techniques, and changing technology in the construction industry. After review and approval by the various committees and the SUDAS Board of Directors, the revisions are incorporated into the SUDAS Design Manual and SUDAS Standard Specifications annually.

- City staff further recommends approval and adoption of the City of Des Moines General Supplemental Specifications to the SUDAS Standard Specifications, 2023 Edition.
- By using standard designs and specifications, Iowa's cities have obtained the following benefits:
 - Uniformity of urban design and specifications across the state.
 - Uniform public improvements (e.g., similar sidewalk ramps) from city to city.
 - Reduction of contractor confusion and mistakes due to differing specifications, and encouragement of more bidders.
 - Mechanism to be proactive in research and studies for new and improved urban design and specifications.
 - Method for study and statewide implementation of latest techniques and material use.
 - Forum that allows state and local governments to collaborate with industry.
 - Reduced costs through uniformity, understanding, and acceptance.
 - Iowa State University's Institute for Transportation (In-Trans) keeps the statewide SUDAS manuals up to date, relieving individual communities of that responsibility and expense while ensuring they are informed about new products and procedures.
- The revisions to this year's City of Des Moines General Supplemental Specifications include:
 - Added provision to allow bidders to submit bid security and proposal together in a single envelope, instead of separate envelopes.
 - Increased the dollar amount of change orders authorized to be approved by the City Manager and City Engineer from \$50,000 to \$100,000. The increased change order amount is consistent with the City Manager's approval authority under the City's procurement ordinance.
 - Added requirements for use of precast concrete intakes and rectangular storm sewer manholes.
 - Increased the extra work payment from \$1.00 to \$2.00 per square yard when additional protection of concrete surface is needed.
 - Added compression strength test requirements to evaluate defects or deficiencies in Portland Cement Concrete (PCC) pavements.
 - Added requirements for pavement core hole cutting and replacement.
 - Added a payment deduction of \$750 per day for contractor noncompliance to timely correct erosion control deficiencies.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: March 7, 2022

Roll Call Number: [22-0308](#)

Action: [Approving](#) and adopting the Iowa Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) Design Manual, 2022 Edition, and the SUDAS Standard Specifications, 2022 Edition, as the official design standards and standard specifications and supplemental specifications for the City of Des Moines, Iowa. ([Council Communication No. 22-084](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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