


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	24-245	Meeting:	June 3, 2024
	Agenda Item:	25	Roll Call:	24-0807
	Submitted by:	Dana Wingert, Chief of Police		

AGENDA HEADING:

Accepting proposal and authorizing contract with Frontline Warning Systems, Inc. for design, installation, and software service for outdoor warning system replacement, not to exceed \$1,712,727.50.

SYNOPSIS:

Approving the proposal and authorizing a contract for a new outdoor warning system with Frontline Warning Systems, Inc. for an initial three (3)-year contract with the option for two (2) one (1)-year renewals.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$1,712,727.50 (not to exceed)

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page 48, Outdoor Warning Siren System Upgrade, MS027, Automate Traffic Enforcement (ATE) and with \$87,021.77 funding from the 2022 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The City's existing outdoor warning system (OWS) consists of 28 sirens which are primarily activated to warn of severe weather. The current system is roughly 30 years old and has reached the end of life per the manufacturer's guidelines.
- Emergency Communication personnel must currently monitor the National Weather Service (NWS) and critical incident reports while maintaining call-taking duties. Distracted monitoring could result in delayed activation of sirens, potentially reducing the amount of time to respond to the warning. Furthermore, the existing radio signal to activate the sirens can be interrupted or lost due to tree growth, building construction that exceeds the height of the siren, and potential vulnerability of the unencrypted signal being jammed or hacked and vulnerable to electrical and equipment damage from moisture and freezing.
- The City desires to replace its existing OWS with a new, modern, and reliable system, including installation of new poles, sirens, radios, control center activation and management software,

training, warranty maintenance, assessment of site conditions for new OWS equipment throughout the City, and removal of the existing system.

- On July 17, 2023, the Finance Department, Procurement Division issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) (Activity ID 14-2023-002) for Outdoor Warning System with five (5) proposals received.
- The Evaluation and Selection Committee is recommending Frontline Warning Systems, Inc., be awarded the contract based on:
 - Highest rated scoring from the Evaluation and Selection Committee based on proposed equipment and solution.
 - Qualifications and experience with similar OWS installations.
- Installation of the new OWS is anticipated to begin in summer 2024 and will be completed in approximately nine (9) months.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: October 3, 2022

Roll Call Number: [22-1529](#)

Action: [Accepting](#) the 2022 Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Award in the amount of \$175,808 to be utilized to purchase various law enforcement equipment ([Council Communication No. 22-455](#)). Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Boesen. Motion Carried 6-1.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Anticipated actions include partial payments to the contractor and final acceptance of work.

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