


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	25-342	Meeting:	September 8, 2025
	Agenda Item:	7	Roll Call:	25-1179
	Submitted by:	Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director, and Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with HDR Engineering, Inc. for professional services for Citywide Sanitary Sewer System Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Program, not to exceed \$135,550.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of PSA with HDR Engineering, Inc. (John W. Henderson, President; 1917 S. 67th Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska 68106) for a total cost not to exceed \$135,550, based on hourly rates and reimbursable costs, to provide professional services for the Citywide Sanitary Sewer System I&I Program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$135,550

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page 107, Sanitary Sewer Lining and Repairs, SS049, Sanitary Sewer Fund

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- I&I is the unintended entry of groundwater and stormwater into sanitary sewer systems. I&I strains existing sewer systems by increasing flows in the sewer systems, reducing capacity, increasing risks of sewer overflows, and increasing flow to the wastewater treatment facility resulting in higher operational and treatment costs.
- Inflow occurs when water directly enters the collection system through improper or unauthorized connections (such as sump pump connections, drain spout connections, open or faulty cleanout covers, or manhole covers). Infiltration happens when groundwater seeps into the collection system through cracks, pipe defects, deteriorated joints, and other openings.
- It is economically infeasible to remove all I&I from a large, aging sanitary sewer system, so the City is looking to develop a Sanitary Sewer I&I Program that provides a targeted approach to reduce I&I in the City's sanitary sewer system.

- The City of Des Moines is seeking the services of a professional engineering firm to assist with review of existing documents, planning and implementation strategies related to initiating a Sanitary Sewer I&I Program.
- The City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to assist with review of documents, planning and implementation strategies related to initiating a Sanitary Sewer I&I Program.
- Six (6) consultant teams submitted responses to the RFP, and City staff recommend the consultant team led by HDR Engineering, Inc., with a Des Moines office located at 300 East Locust Street, Suite 210, Des Moines, Iowa 50309-1823, based on their extensive experience with sanitary sewer system projects and I&I reduction projects as well as their understanding of the City's sanitary sewer system.
- City staff recommend approval of a PSA with the following scope of services:
 - Reviewing existing data, including flow meter data for the sanitary sewer system, geographic information system (GIS) data, previous Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Studies (SSES), and customer service data including sewer back up reports.
 - Developing a process for prioritizing sanitary sewer basin improvements and include recommendations for an ongoing data collection program and procedures to support future program updates.
 - Identifying the top three (3) prioritized services areas for I&I, and from that, identify a pilot project to implement. The project will involve reviewing existing data related to the management, operations, and maintenance practices for the sanitary sewer collection system and identifying any data gaps necessary to establish the program.
 - Developing a long-term Sanitary Sewer I&I Program, including recommendations for funding and ongoing program management.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

City staff anticipate future City Council actions related to the design and construction for the Pilot Project Implementation, as well as other improvements recommended by the Citywide Sanitary Sewer System I&I Program.

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