

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	26-072	Meeting:	February 23, 2026
	Agenda Item:	35	Roll Call:	26-0253
	Submitted by:	Mike McTaggart, Chief of Police		

AGENDA HEADING:

Accepting proposal and authorizing a contract with Crow's Auto Service Inc. located at 826 21st Street Des Moines, IA 50317 (Randy Crow, President) for vehicle towing and storage of impounded vehicles and auctioneering services for the sale of abandoned vehicles.

SYNOPSIS:

The City Procurement Division released a Request for Proposal (RFP) on October 31, 2025 (W26-001) for towing and storage services of impounded vehicles and auctioneering services of abandoned vehicles. A selection committee reviewed each proposal received and recommended Crow's Auto Service, Inc. as having met the requirements stated in the RFP. The Procurement Division then began negotiations with Crow's Auto Services, Inc. to sign a contract for services. The resulting agreement includes a term of three years (March 1, 2026, through February 28, 2029) with the total cost not to exceed \$300,000 as well as a single 1-year extension during which the vendor has agreed to a 5% cost increase limit for the extended term.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$300,000

Funding Source: FY26 Adopted Operating Budget (printed) page 205 Property Management, Contractual Services.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The City of Des Moines first established a contract with Crow's Auto Service, Inc. for the towing and storage services on impounded vehicles in 2015 as the result of a Request for Proposal process. Each three-year contract included the option of extension for additional years. The city has received satisfactory service from the vendor under each contract and would like to accept another three-year contract with a single one-year extension option.

Historically, the auction of abandoned vehicles was a service provided by Ronald Peck Auction Inc., However, Ronald Peck passed away and the company closed. The city reviewed options for another company to provide auctioning services. It was determined that the most cost-effective option was to contract Crow's Auto Service, Inc. to provide the auctioneering services. Since the abandoned vehicles were being stored at Crow's Auto Service location on 826 21st Street in Des Moines, vehicles no longer needed to be transported to another location for auction.

The proposed contract will combine the towing, storage and auctioneering of the impounded and abandoned vehicles for efficiency and continue to provide effective services to the residents of the city.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: January 13, 2020

Roll Call Number: [20-0095](#)

Action: Approving purchases from the following:

(B) [Crow](#) Tow, Inc. (Randy Crow, President) for a 36-month contract with one (1) additional 36-month renewal option to furnish vehicle towing and impoundment services for use by the Police Department, estimated annual cost \$30,000. (Nine potential bidders, two received). ([Council Communication No. 20-004](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the first floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.