REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Date: 6/16/14 Item No.: 13.c

Department Approval

City Manager Approval

Item Description:

Authorize Staff to Release a Request For Proposal for Engineering Services for the Cleveland Ave at I-35W Interchange Improvements

BACKGROUND

As a part of the Alternative Urban Area wide Review for the Twin Lakes area, several transportation

- improvements were identified in order to support redevelopment of the Twin Lakes Area. One of
- 4 those improvements was the modification of the interchange at Cleveland Ave to/from Northbound
- 5 I-35W.
- In 2011, the City applied for, and in 2012 was granted, \$1,192,584 in federal Surface Transportation
- 7 Program (STP) funds for the reconstruction of the intersection of Cleveland Ave and the I-35W
- 8 northbound ramps. These improvements include dual left turn lanes for northbound Cleveland Ave,
- 9 aligning through lanes from the northbound off ramp with the newly constructed Twin Lakes
- Parkway on the east side of the intersection and constructing a new permanent traffic signal system.
- The current estimated construction cost for this project is approximately \$1.5 million. A preliminary
- layout of the proposed improvements is included in Attachment A.
- The federal funds are currently set for the 2015 fiscal year which runs from July 2014-July 2015.
- Staff's goal is to have this project out for bid prior to July 2015. Due to the uncertainty of the
- solvency of the Federal Highway User Trust Fund, where these funds are originating from, the
- Minnesota Department of Transportation, which administers the funds and disburses them to the
- local agencies, is becoming more critical of the timing of projects. Projects that don't meet the
- programmed year for expenditures risk losing some or all of the funds.
- In addition the Walmart development contributed \$400,000 toward the construction of the
- 20 interchange improvements as a part of their development agreement.
- Due to the complexity of the project including necessary environmental documentation, freeway
- operations analysis and the need to apply for an Interchange Access Modification Request (IAMR)
- with the Federal Highway Administration, as well as the necessary oversight of the actual
- construction project due to the requirements of federal funds, it is recommended that the City hire a
- consultant that has worked on similar projects in the past.
- 26 City staff is requesting authorization to release a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Engineering
- 27 Services for both final design and construction administration for this project. Staff estimates that
- the total cost for engineering services will be approximately \$350,000.
- The RFP would be released in early July with proposals due 30 days after the RFP is released. Staff
- would bring a recommendation to award the project to a selected consultant in mid-August.
- Staff will use the Best Value process to score the proposals based on overall price, background and
- qualifications, project scope understanding, and past performance survey. Staff has used the best

value Request for Proposal process in the past in order to award a consulting services contract for the City's Comprehensive Storm Water Management Plan.

35 FINANCIAL IMPACTS

- The City is currently working on a feasibility study to assess the cost of the area transportation
- improvements to benefiting properties in the area. The unmet costs of this project, including the
- engineering services, will be included in the assessment. The feasibility study will be presented to
- Council in the near future and it will be recommended the Council schedule a public hearing in the
- 40 fall.

41 STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- Staff recommends the Council authorize staff to release a Request for Proposal for Engineering
- Services for the Cleveland Ave at I-35W Interchange Improvements.

44 REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION

- Motion to authorize staff to release a Request for Proposal for Engineering Services for the
- 46 Cleveland Ave at I-35W Interchange Improvements.

Prepared by: Marc Culver, City Engineer

Attachments: A: Cleveland Ave at I-35W Interchange Improvements Preliminary Layout

