


# COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	<b>22-092</b>	Meeting:	<b>March 7, 2022</b>
	Agenda Item:	<b>62</b>	Roll Call:	<b>22-0372</b>
	Submitted by:	<b>Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director, and Steven L. Naber, P.E., City Engineer</b>		

## AGENDA HEADING:

Hearing on Des Moines Levee Alterations - Phase C: Reject all bids on Des Moines Levee Alterations – Phase C and close the hearing on the plans, specifications, form of contract documents, and engineer’s estimate.

## SYNOPSIS:

Recommend the City Council reject all bids due to receiving only two (2) valid bids with an apparent low bid that was 30% over the project estimate of \$14,200,00. The Des Moines City Engineer recommends rebidding the project in late summer or early fall 2022 to provide for the following schedule as coordinated with the ICON Water Trails Scott Avenue project, which is anticipated to be more attractive to contractors:

- Construction on the right descending bank (south side) of the Des Moines River from late fall 2022 through fall 2024.
- Construction on the left descending bank (north side) of the Des Moines River from the fall 2023 through summer 2025.

**FISCAL IMPACT: NONE**

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- On January 10, 2022, under Roll Call No. 22-0015, the City Council received and filed plans, specifications, form of contract documents, and City Engineer's estimate for the construction of the Des Moines Levee Alterations - Phase C. Before the City Council can enter into a contract, it must hold a public hearing and approve the proposed plans, specifications, and form of contract documents and engineer's estimate for the construction of the Des Moines Levee Alterations - Phase C, Activity ID 08-2020-006. The improvement includes earthen levee raise and widening, earthwork, excavation, clearing, revetment, steel sheet piling, gateway raise, storm sewer pipe and repair, seepage relief pipe, swing gates, articulated concrete block, utility abandonment, rain garden, Portland Cement Concrete (PCC) pavement, Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) pavement, light pole relocation, erosion control, seeding, other incidental items and miscellaneous associated work including cleanup; all in accordance with the contract documents, including Plan File No. 638-222/388, with improvements located along the Des Moines River from the confluence of the Raccoon River to S.E. 14th Street, in Des Moines.

- Sealed bids for said improvement were submitted by the following bidders:
  - Synergy Contracting, LLC, Altoona, IA - Low Bid
  - C. J. Moyna & Sons, Inc., Elkader, IA
  - NW Construction Inc., Bozeman, MT - Bid not read due to missing pages from proposal
- The bids were received and opened at a public meeting presided over by the City Engineer in the City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 400 Robert D. Ray Drive, Des Moines, Iowa at 11:00 a.m. on February 8, 2022.
- Three (3) bids were submitted with one (1) of the bids not being read due to missing pages from the proposal. The apparent low bid was \$18,486,100 (30.18% over the project estimate of \$14,200,000), and the other bid was \$28,031,131 (97.4% over the project estimate).
- Engineering staff discussed the project with several contractors, and it was determined that many contractors who are qualified to perform this type of work have already committed to other project work for 2022.
- The Des Moines City Engineer, in concurrence with Public Works Department staff, recommends rejecting all bids and rebidding the project in late summer or early fall 2022 to provide for the following schedule as coordinated with the ICON Water Trails Scott Avenue project:
  - Construction on the right descending bank (south side) of the Des Moines River from late fall 2022 through fall 2024.
  - Construction on the left descending bank (north side) of the Des Moines River from the fall 2023 through summer 2025.
- City staff anticipate receiving more interest from contractors by rebidding with the above proposed schedule which provides more time to complete the improvements with less construction site overlap with the ICON Water Trails construction and reducing the overlap with construction of Phase B of the Des Moines Levee Alterations scheduled for construction between the spring 2022 and end of 2023.

LEVEE IMPROVEMENTS PHASING MAP



**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: January 10, 2022

Roll Call Number: [22-0015](#)

Action: Ordering construction of the following:

- (C) [Des Moines Levee Alterations](#) – Phase C: Receiving of bids, (2-8-22), and Setting date of hearing, (3-7-22), Engineer’s estimate, \$14,200,000. ([Council Communication No. 22-012](#)) Moved by Boesen to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

Ordering construction, setting date of hearing, and receiving of bids in the future.

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