

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**From:** Michael Smith, Public Works Director

**Date:** January 26, 2015

**Subject:** **Discussion of a Contract for Traffic Signal Communication Design**

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**BACKGROUND**

At its August 25, 2014 meeting the city council approved an agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation whereby the city will receive \$1,000,000 of federal funding to further develop the city’s traffic signal communications network. The purpose of the project is to extend the fiber optic cable for signal communications from the existing network in the Perimeter Community Improvement Districts to signals in Dunwoody Village and on other major corridors in the city. The fiber optic connectivity allows the city to establish communications between signals and a central traffic management center to be located at City Hall. Signal connectivity improves the coordination of signal timing, and allows for remote monitoring and troubleshooting of signal operations and traffic flow. The project is programmed with \$265,000 in matching funds from the city.

The city utilized a qualification based selection process to procure design services for this project in accordance with the city’s purchasing policy for projects using federal aid highway funds. The city advertised a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) in November 2014 and received responses from two firms. Public Works staff evaluated the submittals and determined that Kimley-Horn was the most qualified firm based on the qualifications, experience and technical approach presented. Following is a summary of the evaluation:

Firm	Evaluator			Average Score
	MDS	EV	MHS	
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.	85	83	92	87
GCA, Inc.	82	77	90	83

**FUNDING**

A base design fee of \$156,286 has been negotiated after a thorough review of the consultant’s detailed man-hour estimates. This fee is comparable to other federally funded projects of similar size and scope.

It is anticipated that some of the new fiber optic cable will be attached to existing utility poles which sometimes requires additional design coordination with each of the existing



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utility companies attached to the poles. Because the number of pole locations requiring coordination cannot be determined until preliminary design work is completed, the scope and cost for this work has not been included in the base design fee. The cost of this additional utility coordination is not expected to exceed \$30,000.

The city has budgeted \$265,000 as a local match for the \$1,000,000 of federal funding for this project. The design phase funding for the base design contract would consist of \$100,000 federal and \$56,286 local.

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Staff recommends award of a contract to Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$156,286 with a 10% contingency and an additional allowance of \$30,000 for utility relocation design.