

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Sue F. McCormick, Public Services Administrator

DATE: February 5, 2007

SUBJECT: Resolution to Approve a Professional Services Agreement with Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. (\$179,626), Appropriate Funds and Establish a Project Design Budget (\$252,626) for the Huron Parkway-Nixon Road Intersection Improvement Project (8 Votes)

Attached for your review and approval is a resolution to approve a Professional Services Agreement, in the amount of \$179,626, with Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. (OHM), appropriate funds and establish a design project budget of \$252,626 for the design of Huron Parkway-Nixon Road Intersection Improvement Project.

The Huron Parkway-Nixon Road's irregular, skewed, large footprint intersection (Attachment A - Existing Condition), combined with the ever-increasing vehicular and pedestrian traffic volumes in the area has resulted in progressively poor "4-Way Stop" condition at this location. A traffic study by DLZ Michigan, Inc. confirmed the operational problems at the intersection. While looking for a solution to improve the intersection, addition of a new traffic signal at this intersection was taken into consideration. However, a new traffic signal at the Huron Parkway-Nixon intersection was not recommended as the best method for improving the area due to the intersection's close proximity to two busy shopping centers, multiple drive approach curb-cuts at Nixon Road south of the intersection, multiple bus stops along the Nixon Road corridor, and major challenges for proper "timing" and maintenance of three traffic signals, one short block from each other. The main recommendation of the study by DLZ Michigan, Inc., is to construct a new Roundabout in place of the existing 4-way stop operation at this location to improve the traffic operation in the area for all modes of traffic (Attachment B - Proposed Roundabout).

The modern "Roundabouts" are not the traditional "traffic circles"! A typical modern roundabout includes a central island to guide the vehicular traffic, and "splitter islands" at each leg of an intersection to provide refuge for the foot traffic that is crossing the intersection. Roundabouts involve one-way traffic moving around a central island where entering traffic must yield to the traffic in the roundabout. Pedestrian need only cross one direction of traffic at a time at each roundabout approach, which allow for a shorter distance to cross an intersection. When compared to other types of intersections, current statistics show that roundabouts could add a number of benefits including:

- Safety: 75% fewer conflict points between all modes of traffic , 8 conflict points at a roundabout vs. 32 conflict points at a standard four-way intersection, 76% accident reduction, 90% fatality reduction

- Traffic Calming: Low speeds for entering and circulating traffic
- Aesthetics: A center island and four refuge islands, an opportunity to create a distinctive focal point for an area
- Environment: Less pavement, less storm water run-off, less idling vehicles, less air pollution
- Level of service: Less delays
- Maintenance cost: No traffic signal to operate

To begin the project design process, we sought proposals from professional engineering firms for the roundabout design and plans and specifications preparation. Eleven firms submitted proposals. A selection committee comprised of Project Management Service Unit staff carefully reviewed the proposals and interviewed three teams of consultants. Based on proposed work plan, staff qualifications, and past involvement with similar projects the team of consultants lead by Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. (OHM) was determined to be the most qualified for the design of Huron Parkway-Nixon Road Intersection Improvement Project.

Considering that roundabouts are new to the City of Ann Arbor, OHM has teamed up with Beckett and Raeder, Inc. to prepare an extensive public involvement process and roundabout presentations during the design, after the completion of the project construction, and prior to opening the new roundabout to the public. The project design will also include an inspection of Nixon Road south of the intersection, and one block of Huron Parkway east of the intersection for street resurfacing, access management, bike lanes, bus stops, foot traffic and more.

The Huron Parkway-Nixon Road Intersection Improvement Project is included in the City's current and FY09 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The funding for the project design is planned from the City's Street Resurfacing Millage, with the participations from the Federal and State grants for construction. The design of the project is scheduled for completion by fall of 2007 and the construction contract to be let by the Michigan Department of Transportation as a Federal Aid project for construction in 2008.

The attached resolution is for the approval of a professional services agreement with Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. and for the approval of project design budget.

The total project cost is estimated as shown below:

| | |
|---------------|---|
| \$ 179,626 | Consulting engineering services |
| 55,000 | Other charges including project management, City owned vehicles, printing, materials and supplies, etc. |
| <u>18,000</u> | Contingencies to be approved by the City Administrator |
| \$ 252,626 | TOTAL |

OHM received Human Rights approval on June 22, 2006.

Prepared by: Homayoon Pirooz, P.E., Project Management Manager
Reviewed by: Sue F. McCormick, Public Services Administrator
Approved by: Roger W. Fraser, City Administrator

Attachment A- Existing Condition



Attachment B- Proposed Roundabout



R-43-2-07

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT
WITH
ORCHARD, HILTZ & McCLIMENT, INC. (\$179,626)
APPROPRIATE FUNDS AND
ESTABLISH A PROJECT DESIGN BUDGET (\$252,626)
FOR THE
HURON PARKWAY-NIXON ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
(8 VOTES)

Whereas, The existing “4-way stop” operation at the Huron Parkway-Nixon Road intersection no longer accommodates the increasing motorized and non-motorized traffic volume at this location;

Whereas, the study conducted by the engineering firm of DLZ Michigan, Inc. recommends construction of a “roundabout” at the Huron Parkway-Nixon Road intersection to improve the traffic circulation in the area;

Whereas, The Huron Parkway-Nixon Road Intersection Improvement Project is included in the City’s Capital Improvements Plan;

Whereas, The project may include further improvements to Nixon Road south of the intersection and one block of Huron Parkway east of the intersection for street resurfacing, driveway access management, bike lanes, bus stops, foot traffic and more;

Whereas, the project may receive Federal and State grants for the construction phase;

Whereas, It is necessary to retain the services of a professional engineering firm to begin the project design;

Whereas, Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. has demonstrated the required experience, qualified professionals, and competitive fee schedule for design of the project; and

Whereas, Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. received Human Rights approval on June 22, 2006, and complies with the living wage ordinance;

RESOLVED, That City Council approves a professional services agreement with Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. in the amount of \$179,626 for the planning and design of the Huron Parkway - Nixon Road Intersection Improvement Project;

RESOLVED, That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute said professional services agreement, after approval as to form by the City Attorney, and approval as to substance by the City Administrator;

RESOLVED, That the total project design budget in an amount of \$252,626 be appropriated from the Street Reconstruction Millage Fund Balance and be available for the life of the project, without regard to fiscal year;

RESOLVED, That a contingency amount of \$18,000 be established from the project design budget and that the City Administrator is authorized to approve change orders to the professional services agreement with Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc., not to exceed \$18,000 in order to satisfactorily complete the project design; and

RESOLVED, That the City Administrator is authorized to take necessary administrative actions to implement this resolution.

Submitted by: Public Services Area

Date: February 5, 2007

Approved by: City Attorney

**APPROVED
BY ANN ARBOR CITY COUNCIL**

February 5, 2007

**CITY CLERK
ANN ARBOR, MI**