

To: **Mayor and City Council**
Through: **Ryan Schroeder, City Manager**
From: **Ross Beckwith, Public Works & Parks Director/City Engineer**
Date: **April 26, 2021**

Consultant Contract for the Bidwell Avenue Safe Routes to School Project 21-8

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In 2016, the City was awarded a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant in the amount of \$288,400 for the installation of a sidewalk along Bidwell Avenue from Thompson Avenue to Butler Avenue. After working through preliminary engineering, it was discovered that the project cost was going to be much higher than previously thought. As a result, City Council rescinded the federal grant in October of 2016. In 2020, staff again applied for a SRTS grant for Bidwell Avenue and was successful in securing funding for program year 2023. At the Open Council Work Session on February 22, 2021, staff presented the 30% project design again, which Council supported.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) Federal Aid department administers SRTS grants. They have requested an engineering consultant be on board prior to having a kick-off meeting. Proposals for final design and construction administration (inspection, materials testing, surveying) were solicited from three different engineering firms and two firms submitted, Bolton & Menk and Kimley-Horn. City staff evaluated the proposals based on project understanding, technical evaluation, team, SRTS experience, hours and cost. As a result, staff recommend a contract award to Kimley-Horn. Federal aid projects have many steps to work through, so starting the final design process now will ensure 2023 construction.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The SRTS grant pays for up to 80% of construction costs, but does not pay for design, construction inspection/testing/administration or right-of-way. With an estimated construction cost of \$800,000, the SRTS grant will pay a maximum of \$640,000 with a \$160,000 City match. Kimley-Horn's contract amount for design and construction services is \$163,745. The City's portion of this project is currently estimated at \$323,745 and will be financed from the Sidewalk Fund.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council award a contract to Kimley-Horn for final design and construction administration of the Bidwell Avenue Safe Routes to School Project, City Project 21-8, for \$163,745.