

Memorandum

City of Lawrence

Public Works

TO: Chuck Soules
FROM: Mark Thiel
CC:
Date: 12/2/2011
RE: **Request to increase purchase order for concrete specification verification testing.**

Background

In 2010, working with Lawrence's newest ready mixed concrete supplier we incorporated some changes to our technical specifications at their request. The proposed changes went through our normal city review process and stakeholders were given several opportunities to raise any questions or concerns.

In the spring of 2011 additional questions were raised about the changes. As a result we solicited quotes from five materials testing laboratories to perform a battery of verification testing on mix designs that are allowed to be produced using our current specification.

Three of the five laboratories' submitted quote and we selected the lowest qualified bidder, Geotechnology, inc. to perform the testing at a cost of \$11,988.00. We have received the test results and have met with both ready mix concrete suppliers to discuss. In general, both mix designs as produced using our specification were good quality concrete. There was however some issues with both mix designs that we all felt needed some additional verification testing.

We have asked Geotechnology to perform the additional testing. One of those tests will take one year to completely evaluate. The cost for this testing will be approximately \$7,000

Justification

Each year the city invest millions of dollars on our infrastructure, this is part of our due diligence to verify that we are specifying the best possible products and consequently receiving the best products.

Actions

Authorize an increase of purchase order #004103 in the amount of \$7,000.00. Making the total purchase order \$18,988.00. This expense will utilize account 001-3-3000-4508 and is within the budget authorization for the pavement maintenance program as adopted in August of 2010.