
TO: Kate Thunstrom, City Administrator
FROM: Paul Carpenter, Public Works Director
SUBJECT: Mower Replacement
DATE: March 2, 2026

OVERVIEW:

The attached invoice is for the trade-in and purchase of a Wide Area Mower (WAM). Public Works spend most of the time mowing in the summer months and need to increase time spent on other projects such as stormwater maintenance, potholing, and equipment/building maintenance. The WAM can decrease cutting time in two different ways; one is the size of the mower (11 feet wide) and the other is having a cab. The cab allows rain or shine cutting and increases mowing time on very hot days allowing the operator to remain in the piece of equipment longer.

The purchase of this mower was also planned, knowing the city will be responsible for the state right-of-way when highway 47 project is finished. The initial investment is higher with these mowers, but the long-term payback is better. The WAM mower will be put in the Capital Equipment Plan to be replaced after a ten-year period rather than a five.

ACTION TO BE CONSIDERED:

Council to authorize the purchase of the WAM from Minnesota Equipment in the amount of \$68,640.94 per state bid. The price listed also includes the old mower trade in.

BUDGET IMPLICATION:

\$80,000.00 is set aside in the Capital Equipment Plan for this piece of equipment.

Attachments:

- Quote from Minnesota Equipment