City of Missoula, Montana
Item to be Referred to City Council Committee

Committee: Public Works
Item: Professional Services Agreement – Project 2020-007: Railroad Quiet Zone & Traffic Study
Date: February 26, 2020
Sponsor(s): Monte Sipe, Construction Projects Manager
Prepared by: Monte Sipe, Construction Projects Manager
Ward(s) Affected:
☑ Ward 1 ☐ Ward 4
☐ Ward 2 ☐ Ward 5
☐ Ward 3 ☐ Ward 6
☐ All Wards ☐ N/A

Action Required:
Approve a Professional Services Agreement with Triple Tree Engineering, Inc. for railroad quiet zone and traffic study Project 2020-007

Recommended Motion(s):
I move the City Council: Approved and authorize the Mayor to sign a Professional Services Agreement with Triple Tree Engineering, Inc. for railroad quiet zone and traffic study Project 2020-007 for a cost not to exceed $26,300

Timeline:
Referral to committee: March 2, 2020
Committee discussion: March 4, 2020
Council action (or sets hearing): N/A
Public Hearing: N/A
Deadline: N/A

Background and Alternatives Explored:
At the request of surrounding concerned citizens and Ward 1 Council Members, the Mayor’s office have asked City staff to identify issues and contract with a consultant to initiate the necessary steps to establish a railroad quite zone for the railroad crossing at Madison/Spruce/Greenough. This railroad crossing is located within the Hellgate URD boundary.

Quite zones are designated by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and are sections of railway where additional safety measures have been installed at crossings so that the requirement for trains to sound their horns at these intersections is waived. Due to the increased risk of collision at a railroad crossing when no horn sounds, the City would be required to take steps to mitigate this risk.

The City contacted Montana Rail Link (MRL) expressing interest in learning more about the quiet zone process. MRL provided resources regarding the process of establishing a quite zone in Missoula and suggested contacting the City of Helena who recently completed a quite zone process and installed necessary improvements. The lead consultant that assisted the City of Helena was Brad Koon, P.E., now with Triple Tree Engineering. Triple Tree Engineering has
provided a proposal to complete a quite zone and traffic study (see attached). This study will be the basis for further implementation of a construction project. This study will provide information to compile a CIP for actual implementation and construction of the project.

Triple Tree Engineering, Inc. has been designated a sole source vender for this study (see attached).

**Financial Implications:**
MRA Hellgate URD District funds will pay for the railroad quiet zone & traffic study.

**Links to external websites:**