



# CITY OF IOWA CITY COUNCIL ACTION REPORT

May 2, 2023

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Resolution approving consultant contracts with Kearns & West, Think Peace, Healing Partners, and Three Native Partners to assist with facilitating the work of the Iowa City Ad Hoc Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

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Fiscal Impact: The contracts total \$402,721.20. Funds are available in org #10210410, the Black Lives Matter set-aside. The proposal discloses the possibility of a "Third Phase" of the TRC's work, with no cost estimate provided. The proposal also calls for City staff to take a leadership role in coordinating the work of the four consultant groups, co-facilitating Strategic Doing sessions, co-creating Restorative Justice Practices, etc. No City staff is currently trained in Strategic Doing or Restorative Justice Practices, so may require additional training and/or staffing to accommodate this work, the cost for which is presently unknown.

Staff Recommendation: No recommendation

Commission Recommendations: The TRC voted to recommend approval of the contracts.

Attachments: [TRC Memo 4-26-23.pdf](#)  
[TRC Consultant contract resolution.doc](#)  
[Kearns and West Contract.pdf](#)  
[Healing Partners Contract.pdf](#)  
[Think Peace Contract.pdf](#)  
[Three Native Partners Contract.pdf](#)

## **Executive Summary:**

The TRC welcomed a proposal from a consortium of local and national consultants to assist them in facilitating their work. They invited City staff to prepare and negotiate contracts with all of them. City Legal staff drafted a total of four consultant contracts with the various entities and individuals, and worked through the included spreadsheets to clarify the work to be done and payment to be received for each group. The contracts were then returned to the TRC for their approval, which was granted. They were then sent out to the consultant groups. All four contracts have now been executed on the consultant side.

## **Background / Analysis:**

Council previously approved a budget for TRC facilitation of \$197,907.00 at a Council

meeting, but did not approve the Kearns & West contract in that amount at a subsequent meeting, citing a desire for greater local involvement. A consortium of local and national consultants then made the present proposal to the TRC, which has recommended approval by Council. The new total is \$402,721.20, and includes substantial work on the part of City staff, some of which staff is not yet trained to do. A companion item on the agenda at this Council meeting is an extension of the time for the TRC to do their work, setting it out to December 31, 2024.