

Germantown OK's study of buildings

Group to determine vulnerable structures

By Lela Garlington

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

How well would city-owned buildings in Germantown hold up in the event of an earthquake?

That's what the Germantown Board of Mayor and Aldermen hope to find out. The board approved a contract on 5-0 vote Monday night to assess the city's buildings and make recommendations on what can be done with those more vulnerable to damage.

Germantown built 75 percent of its structures when seismic building codes were either minimal or non-existent in Shelby County.

The board approved a professional services agreement for \$89,500 with a joint team of CCS Group Inc. of Chesterfield, Mo., and Allen & Hoshall of Memphis. The two firms projected that they could give the city a final report in three to four months.

In other action, the board approved an emergency ditch repair behind several homes in the 2100 block of Oaklawn Lane. The ditch is north of Dogwood Road between Johnson and Forest Hill-Irene Roads. The board agreed to hire Hamilton-Elles of Memphis to repair about 90 feet of the collapsed ditch for \$72,500.

The board also approved on the second of three readings several proposed changes in the city's sign ordinances.

The final reading is set for Feb. 25.

-- Lela Garlington: 529-2349

