

AGENDA



Thursday, July 26, 2007

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 60**

Subject: Authorize award, negotiation, and execution of a contract with FIRSTWATCH SOLUTIONS, INC., dba FIRSTWATCH, Encinitas, CA, for the purchase and installation of real-time computer aided dispatch monitoring software, "FIRSTWATCH", in an amount not to exceed \$73,271, with five 12-month extension options for maintenance and support in an amount not to exceed \$10,237 per extension option, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$124,456.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Operating Budget of the Public Safety and Emergency Management Department Special Revenue. Funding for the extension options is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Mick Osborne, Sr. Buyer Specialist/974 2995

Purchasing Language: Sole Source.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9C of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

This contract is for the purchase and installation of real-time computer aided dispatch (CAD) monitoring software, which will work in conjunction with our existing TriTech CAD system. This data monitoring and bio-surveillance software will monitor potential bioterrorism and provide early warnings for such public health threats as a flu pandemic or West Nile virus outbreak. The warnings will be automatically generated by data triggers based on data patterns within our existing CAD system. The City currently has no such warning capability from our CAD system. When FirstWatch detects suspicious trends, users are alerted to the anomaly via on-screen, pager, e-mail, printed, and faxed alerting reports. The data will also be accessible on a 24 hour/7 day per week basis via a secured internet connection. These warnings detail the reasons for the alarm, providing instant critical access to the specific call data which triggered the alert.

The alert data can then be used by public safety and health officials to rapidly research and identify the causes for the data aberrancies, providing an early warning to the signs of a silent biological attack. FirstWatch can also serve as a warning system for other dangerous events, such as heat or cold emergencies, drowning patterns in specific areas, accident rate patterns, and other applications.

FirstWatch can quickly detect and alert not just on local individual agency data sets, but on regional, statewide and national information. This is accomplished via a secure and encrypted centralized internet data collection network. Through the purchase of this software, Austin-Travis County EMS will become a part of this network and receive instant secure access to this area's surveillance status. FirstWatch is being used within 60 other metro areas across the United States, including 28 TriTech VisiCAD customers. This list includes San Antonio, Fort Worth, and eight other cities and counties located along the I-35 corridor. Austin's participation in this regional system will not only benefit our immediate

community but our region and nation as well. This purchase has been approved by the City's Communications and Technology Management Department.

This software, manufactured by FirstWatch, is the only monitoring software designed to seamlessly interface with the existing TriTech CAD system. In addition, the software is unique in its ability to provide interoperability with other participating regions along the I-35 corridor for aggregated data analyses and reporting.