Thursday, July 26, 2007

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 63

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract with AUSTIN TRUCK AND EQUIPMENT dba FREIGHTLINER OF AUSTIN, Austin, TX, for the purchase of one Mobile Command Center Vehicle in an amount not to exceed \$688,583.61.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available through the State of Texas Governor's Division of Emergency Management State Administrative Agency (GDEM-SAA) Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) No.06-GA 5000-05.

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

For More Information: Ron Mazzarella, Fleet Buyer/974-2837

Purchasing Language: Lowest bid meeting specifications of three bids received.

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

This contract is for the purchase of a Mobile Command Center Vehicle that will be shared by the Austin Fire Department, Austin Police Department, Austin Emergency Medical Services, and the Austin Office of Emergency Management. It is a specially built and customized 40' vehicle equipped with highly-technical communication devices that will be used throughout the city to provide communication during critical and high-risk situations. These situations can include but are not limited to floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, and other weather-related incidents. It will also be utilized in the event of terrorist activities and incidents involving hostage situations as well as for barricaded felony suspects, and certain suicidal subjects. It will provide a quiet, controlled, and secure location in which emergency department personnel can conduct briefings, planning meetings, teleconferences, and negotiations to fully comply with the National Incident Management Systems (NIMS) and Homeland Presidential Directive-5.

This vehicle is equipped with a diesel powered engine. The City of Austin currently uses TXLed diesel fuel approved by the Texas Commission for Environmental Quality (TCEQ). TXLed consists of the EPA compliant ULSD (ultra low sulfur diesel) and the Oryxe additive. EPA compliant diesel fuel treated with ORYXE LED was tested at the internationally-recognized West Virginia University National Research Center for Alternative Fuels, Engines and Emissions, which found the following significant reductions in emissions of carbon monoxide, oxides of nitrogen and total hydrocarbons compared to untreated EPA compliant diesel. Fleet is currently exploring the use of B20 (bio diesel) with particular focus on investigating its impact on reducing Carbon Dioxide (data limited) and NOx, as well as the impact on engine components.

This vehicle meets the EPA's 2007-2010 emissions standards. The overall emission reductions when using the aforementioned TXLed are as follows:

CO- 100% Reduction NOx- 38% Reduction PM- 97% Reduction

CO2- No data available

This vehicle has an anticipated useful life of ten years, and will be replaced prior to 2020.

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Lowest bid meeting specifications of three bids received.
- b. Forty-nine notices were issued to dealers. No MBE/WBEs were available for this commodity. Three bids were received.
- c. The City has not purchased this type of mobile command vehicle in the past, therefore no price history is available.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Lowest bid meeting specifications of three bids received.
- b. Fleet Services' concurs with recommended award.
- c. Advertised in the Austin American-Statesman and on the internet.