

AGENDA



Thursday, October 11, 2007

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**
Item No. 44

Subject: Authorize award, negotiation, and execution of a contract with WEST VIEW FINANCIAL CONSULTING, Austin, TX, to act as the residential customer rate advocate for the Austin Water Utility during the Cost of Service Rate Study in an amount not to exceed \$78,750.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$78,750 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007–2008 Capital Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Stephen T. Aden, Supervising Senior Buyer, 974-2021.

Purchasing Language: Sole proposal received.

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.

Prior Council Action: Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

The Austin Water Utility (AWU) recommends the selection of West View Financial Consulting, to act as the Utility's Residential Customer Rate Advocate during the performance of the Cost of Service rate study. The Water Conservation Task Force recommended that the AWU conduct a Cost of Service Rate Study to assess and evaluate implementation of additional conservation rates and this recommendation was approved by Council. This study will evaluate the Utility's revenue requirements, costs of providing water and wastewater service, and design of rates. The Utility Residential Customer Rate Advocate will provide services as an independent representative for the residential customer rate class during the performance of the cost of service study. The recommended awardee, West View Financial Consulting, will participate in the study and offer recommendations to the cost of service rate consultant on the water and wastewater cost of service methodology issues.

MBE/WBE solicited: 10/15

MBE/WBE bid: 0/0

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Sole proposal. This is a re-bid and the last time we closed the RFP only one proposal was received. That vendor did not submit a proposal this time around.
- b. Two hundred twenty notices were sent including 10 MBEs/15 WBEs. One response was received.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Sole proposal received.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with the Austin Water Utility's recommended award.
- c. Advertised in the Austin American-Statesman and on the Internet.