Thursday, February 28, 2008

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 46

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a 12-month Interlocal Agreement with the UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN GRADUATE SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND KINESIOLOGY, Austin, TX, for a remedial strength training program for the Austin Fire Department Training Academy in an estimated amount not to exceed \$27,961, with five 12-month extension options in an estimated amount not to exceed \$27,961 per extension option, for a total estimated contract amount not to exceed \$167,766.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$13,981 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budgets of the Austin Fire Department. Funding for the remaining six months of the original contract period and 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: Brad Brill, Buyer I, 972-4012

Purchasing Language: Interlocal Agreement.

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). This contract is an Interlocal Agreement; therefore, it is exempted under Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code. No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

This interlocal agreement will provide remedial strength training for the Austin Fire Department Training Academy's Fire Cadet class. Once a year, eligible candidates may elect to participate in a 4-month training program designed to enhance their physiological and psychological performance to increase their likelihood of passing the Candidate Physical Ability Testing (CPAT©) portion of the AFD hiring process.

Firefighting is one of the most hazardous and physically demanding occupations, requiring both lower and upper body strength, physical power, high energy, psychological stamina, and tolerance to heat stress. Historically, candidates who are lacking in physical strength have not performed well on the CPAT examination.

The remedial strength training program will be scheduled to coincide with the firefighter recruiting and hiring process to provide applicants with the necessary time to train for the CPAT. The University of Texas Graduate School of Health and Kinesiology staff will collect statistics from the class for analysis and feedback to improve the training program.