Thursday, March 27, 2008

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 30

Subject: Approve ratification of a contract with HAYWARD BAKER, INC., Keller, TX, for the emergency repair of a 72-inch diameter water transmission main for the Austin Water Utility for a total contract amount not to exceed \$318,759.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding 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: Steve Aden, Supervising Sr. Buyer, 974-2021.

Purchasing Language: Emergency Purchase.

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.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

While constructing a utility tunnel at the intersection of 3rd and San Antonio Streets in downtown Austin, a contractor encountered the gravel bedding for an existing 72-inch diameter water transmission main. The roof of the tunnel failed that allowed the gravel bedding to spill into the tunnel. The resulting loss of support created a situation that could impact the structural integrity of the City's 72-inch water main. In order to prevent failure of the water transmission main, the support bedding beneath the pipe had to be reestablished by injecting grout into the soil and voids around the pipe.

Due to the specialized construction methods required, the scope of repairs is beyond the capabilities of the AWU's workforce. In addition, the main must be back in service by March 15th to allow the developer's contractor to continue with the tunnel work to install the wastewater pipeline to serve the 360 Condominium project at the intersection.

A purchase order was issued to Hayward Baker, Inc. on February 20, 2008 so work could be completed by February 29, 2008. Due to the emergency nature of this project to preserve the City's property and the time involved in advertising for these services, competitive bids were not obtained under the provisions of Local Government Code.