Thursday, May 15, 2008

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 13

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the State of Texas Multiple Awards Schedule (TXMAS) with W.W. GRAINGER INC., Austin, TX, for the purchase of personnel protective equipment for City of Austin emergency first responders in an amount not to exceed \$394,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the 2007-2008 special revenue fund from the Public Health Preparedness and Response for Bioterrorism (PAN FLU) grant, awarded to the Health and Human Services Department by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), Public Health Preparedness Section. No local match required.

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

For More Information: Lynn Mueller, Contract Compliance Manager, 972-4011.

Purchasing Language: Cooperative Purchase.

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). This contract is a cooperative purchase; therefore, it is exempted under Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code and no goals were established for this solicitation.

This contract will allow the Health and Human Services Department to create a dedicated supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) such as respirators, surgical masks, and medical gloves to be used in the event of an influenza pandemic. This dedicated supply will be stored in a secure location and will ensure that adequate supplies of PPE are available to City of Austin first responders.

W. W. Grainger Inc. is under contract through TXMAS to provide this special type personal protective equipment to other public entities state-wide. This cooperative purchasing program is coordinated by the State of Texas, Comptroller of Public Accounts and allows the City to use TXMAS contracts that have been developed from contracts that were competitively bid and awarded by the General Services Administration's Federal Supply Service.