

AGENDA



Thursday, June 5, 2008

**Contract and Land Management
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Item No. 11

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC., Austin, TX, for engineering services for the Dry Creek East Hydrologic and Hydraulic Modeling and Mapping project, in an amount not to exceed \$700,000. The project will be performed in two phases with Phase 1 in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$400,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Capital Budget of the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department. Funding of the remaining \$300,000 is contingent upon approval of the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Fang Yu, PhD, P.E. 974-3580, Rosie Truelove 974-3064, Robin Field 974-7064

Purchasing Language: Best qualification statement of eight 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) by meeting the goals of 16.50% MBE and 14.20% WBE subconsultant participation.

The Dry Creek East watershed, including North Fork and South Fork creeks, is a suburban watershed with approximately 55 square miles of drainage area and 45 miles of streams to be studied. The watershed is bordered roughly by the Colorado River on the east, Marble Creek on the west, Onion Creek on the north and Maha Creek on the south. The creek discharges into the Colorado River. Exhibit 1 shows the study area.

The current effective floodplain insurance study and resulting map were completed in 1977. In the past few years the City of Austin and Travis County have experienced increasing land development activities and requests for more accurate digital floodplain models and maps for the Dry Creek East watershed. Land development activities in the Dry Creek East Creek watershed are anticipated to increase as State Highway 130 is constructed and opened. The project services consist of two phases: Phase 1 - data collection, cross-section surveys, and hydrologic model development; and Phase 2 - hydraulic model development, floodplain mapping, and FEMA LOMR application.

The selected engineering consultant will:

- Develop a new geo-referenced hydrologic model (HEC-HMS) for the Dry Creek East watershed for both existing and fully-developed land-use conditions for selected storm frequencies;
- Develop new geo-referenced hydraulic models (HEC-RAS) for the Dry Creek East watershed for both existing and fully-developed land-use conditions for selected storm frequencies;
- Map the 100-year and 500-year floodplains for existing land-use conditions and the 25-year and 100-year fully-developed land-use conditions; and
- Prepare and submit to the Federal Emergency Management Agency a Letter of Map Revision based on this new hydrologic and hydraulic study.

This request allows for the development of a professional services agreement with the recommended firm. Should the City be unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory agreement with the recommended firm, negotiations will cease with that firm. Staff will then return to Council and request authorization to begin negotiations with the alternate recommendation listed below.

Participation subgoals stated in the solicitation were 1.7% African American; 9.5% Hispanic; 5.3% Native/Asian and 14.2% WBE. The recommended and alternate firm provided a MBE/WBE Compliance Plan that met the goals of the solicitation and were approved by the Department of Small and Minority Business Resources.