Thursday, June 5, 2008

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 36

Subject: Authorize award and execution of two 36-month requirements service contracts for full inspection, testing, maintenance, and repair of fire alarm systems with SIMPLEX GRINNELL L.P., Round Rock, TX, for services at the Austin Convention Center in an estimated amount not to exceed \$460,413, with three 12-month extension options in an estimated amount not to exceed \$153,471 per extension option, for a total estimated contract amount not to exceed \$920,826, and with FIRETROL PROTECTION, Austin, TX for services at Palmer Events Center in an estimated amount not to exceed \$230,610, with three 12-month extension options in an estimated amount not to exceed \$76,870 per extension option, for a total estimated contract amount not to exceed \$461,220.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$76,781 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007–2008 Operating Budget of the Austin Convention Center Department. Funding for the remaining 32 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: Michael L. Simms, Sr., Buyer II/512-974-9140

Purchasing Language: Lowest bids meeting specifications of two bids received.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9C of the City Code (Minority – Owned and Woman Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

This contract is for the inspection, testing, maintenance, and repair services for the fire alarm systems located at the Austin Convention Center, Palmer Events Center, and parking garages. The city issued separate solicitations for the fire alarm services and fire suppression services in an attempt to create more competition since these are separate service industries.

The fire alarm systems for the Austin Convention Center located at 500 East Cesar Chavez and parking garage located at 201 E. Second Street are manufactured by Simplex Grinnell and will be maintained by Simplex Grinnell.

The fire alarm system for the Palmer Events Center, the parking garage located at 900 Barton Springs Road, and the Austin Convention Center parking garage located at 601 E. 5th Street is the Notifier System manufactured by Honeywell and will be maintained by Firetrol Protection.

Both contracts include basic maintenance services for scheduled monthly, semi-annual, and annual inspections, as well as, remedial maintenance and repairs on an as needed basis. Services provided under this agreement will comply with all applicable City of Austin, National Fire Protection Association, and Factory Mutual guidelines as they relate to life safety system maintenance, repair, and inspections. The contract with Simplex Grinnell to provide services for the Austin Convention Center includes an annual estimate of \$30,000 for the purchase of repair parts. The contract with Firetrol for Palmer Events Center includes an annual estimate of \$25,000 for the purchase of repair parts.

MBE/WBE solicited: 3/2 MBE/WBE bid: 0/0

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Adequate competition.
- b. Forty-six notices were sent, including three MBEs and two WBEs. Three bids were received, with no response from the MBE/WBEs.
- c. The pricing offered represents a 1% increase to the last contract award in August 2004.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Lowest bids received meeting specifications. Simplex Grinnell is the current provider for these services.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with Austin Convention Center Department's recommended award
- c. Advertised in the Austin American-Statesman and on the Internet.