

## AGENDA



Thursday, July 24, 2008

**Purchasing Office**  
**RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**Item No. 67**

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**Subject:** Authorize award, negotiation, and execution of an Interlocal Agreement with THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS COMMONS CONFERENCE CENTER, Austin, TX, to provide facility rental, equipment, wireless internet access, parking, and refreshments for the City of Austin IT Business Development Conference and Expo in an estimated amount not to exceed \$7000.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding in the amount of \$7000 is included in the proposed Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget of the Financial and Administrative Services Department, Communications and Technology Management.

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

**For More Information:** Mick Osborne, Specialist Sr. Buyer/974-2995.

**Purchasing Language:** Interlocal.

**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.

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The City of Austin Information Technology Business Development Conference and Expo, to be held on November 4, 2008, is a one-day annual event designed to inform local technology businesses about procurement processes and opportunities for doing business with the City of Austin and other local governmental entities. The conference/expo is for local businesses related to the technology industry. The University of Texas Commons Conference Center will provide facility rental, equipment, wireless internet access, parking, and refreshments for the event.

City officials will provide information on the City's critical information technology (IT) needs over the next few years and will provide detailed information about registration as a City vendor and certification as a minority/woman-owned business enterprise (MBE/WBE). On-site vendor registration and a certification workshop will be available.

The goals of the Expo are to: (a) actively reach out to local IT vendors to provide them with information about how to access opportunities with the City of Austin and other government entities and (b) to facilitate the development of strong relationships with local IT vendors for mutual benefit.

There will be opportunities to meet and interact with the City's IT and Purchasing staff in addition to other activities, sessions and services including information on a number of free City services available to help grow local businesses. There will also be a forum for small, local vendors to explore partnering opportunities with larger more established IT businesses.

City departments and other local governmental entities, including the State Department of Information Resources will be represented at the Conference/Expo.

This event was first held last year with participation from nine other government entities including the Lower Colorado River Authority, Capital Metro, Travis County, the State Department of Information Resources, Austin Community College, the University of Texas, Austin Independent School District, Health and Human Services Commission, and the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

The event was well advertised throughout minority communities in the local area and it was well received. The first event of its kind in September 2007, attracted nearly 300 vendor registrants with 170 attending. The attendees received valuable information about doing business with local and State government entities. Over 60 local IT vendors received coaching and information regarding MBE/WBE certification and the City received a minimum of 30 new vendor registrations the day of the event. The event received overwhelmingly positive reviews with many vendors requesting that the event be repeated on an annual basis. CTM is planning to repeat the event annually.