Thursday, August 28, 2008

Contract and Land Management RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 19

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with HARUTUNIAN ENGINEERING INC.(WBE/FW 60.70%), Austin, TX, to provide professional engineering services for Davis Water Treatment Plant Power Distribution Upgrade in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.

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: Jim Randig 328-6379, Rosie Truelove 974-3064, April Thedford 974-7141

Purchasing Language: Best qualification statement of five statements received.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9B of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 16.50% MBE and 14.20% WBE subcontractor participation.

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

The City of Austin utilizes surface water resources from impoundments of the Colorado River. The City operates three water treatment plants, all of which employ lime softening and disinfect with a brief contact time of free chlorine followed by chloramines. All three plants feed fluoride, sodium hexametaphosphate and ferric sulfate. The City is considering converting its plant's to on-site chlorine generation and may consider future conversion to ultraviolet disinfection.

Although the Plant has undergone several process improvement projects over the years, much of the Plant's electrical system has generally not been updated or rehabilitated since its original construction and have deteriorated due to age and wear. This project upgrades the electrical services to these process areas and replaces outdated equipment.

The selected consultant shall provide a complete preliminary engineering report and design and construction phase services for the entire project. However, depending on the availability and timing of available funding, and the results of the preliminary engineering cost estimates, the selected consultant may only complete the preliminary engineering and then the design and construction phase services for Phase I, or Phase I and Phase II, with the remaining scope to be deferred to a later date, possibly through a subsequent RFQ process.

All improvements must be designed and sequenced to maintain unimpeded Plant capacity throughout construction.

All preliminary engineering and final design work for the Davis WTP Power Distribution Upgrades project are to be complete within 18 months from authorization to proceed.

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 Americans; 14.2% WBE. The recommended and alternate firms both provided an M/WBE Compliance Plan that met the goals of the solicitation and was approved by the Department of Small and Minority Business Resources.