

AGENDA



Thursday, December 11, 2008

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

Item No. 23

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of professional service agreements with the following three firms: HDR/CLAUNCH & MILLER, Austin, TX; JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP, INC., Austin, TX; SUB TERRA, INC., Austin, TX to provide consulting engineering services for the Trenchless Construction Engineering Rotation List, for the years 2008 through 2011-Reissue or until available funding authorization is expended, with a total of the three agreements in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$1,200,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital budgets and/or Operating and Maintenance budgets of the various departments for which services are needed.

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

For More Information: Robert Hengst 974-3490; Rosie Truelove 974-3064; April Thedford 974-7141

Purchasing Language: Best qualification statements of nine (9) 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). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

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

The City of Austin through its Public Works Department is in need of consulting engineering services in relation to design of trenchless methods for construction of utility projects. The objective of this rotation list is to have engineering firms whose expertise is tunneling, microtunneling, and directional drilling available with sufficient breadth of experience to advise the City of Austin concerning the most appropriate method(s) for each project and to assist in preparing the required documents to accomplish such work.

In addition to utility extensions and relocations that are part of Capital Improvement Projects, the City of Austin anticipates having to extend and relocate numerous water and wastewater lines as a part of highway, freeway, and toll road construction by the Texas Department of Transportation and related agencies. Installation of utilities by trenchless methods will be optional on some projects and necessary on others. Firms selected for this rotation list will assist in providing a complete design for trenchless construction to be incorporated into a bid package prepared by another design entity. In all cases, it is intended that these firms will work as direct sub-consultants. The City anticipates developing and executing a professional services agreement with each selected firm. Initial project assignments will be based on the firm's final ranking as determined during the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) evaluation (highest to lowest), the maximum cumulative contracted amount in comparison to the estimated task budget for that firm, and the firm's qualifications and availability of expertise at time of project need. The total dollar amount will not exceed \$1,200,000, with an estimated amount of \$400,000 for each firm. Actual amounts ultimately going to each firm may be higher or lower than the estimated amounts listed above due to variations in project scopes and magnitude.

This request allows for the development of a professional services agreement with each of the three recommended firms. Should the City be unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory agreement with any of the recommended firms; if a selected firm ceases to practice during the contract period; or if the City elects to terminate its agreement with any of the selected firms, the remaining assignments will be distributed among the remaining firms as equally as possible.

Due to the limited subcontracting opportunities on the proposed scope of work, no MBE/WBE participation goals were established by the Department of Small and Minority Business Resources for this master agreement. Even though no goals have been established for this solicitation, the respondents are required to comply with the City's MBE/WBE Procurement Program, if areas of subcontracting are identified. In addition, it is anticipated that as this rotation contract matures, MBE/WBE firms will see the need to add these skills and to work with the City to develop an understanding of how their future participation can be encouraged.

Notification of issuance of an RFQ for the subject services was sent to 259 firms on April 24, 2008. The RFQ was obtained by 41 firms and nine firms submitted qualification statements. None of the firms were certified MBE/WBE firms. The evaluation of the submittals of the nine firms resulted in the following recommendations.