Thursday, December 11, 2008

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 56

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a 36-month requirements supply contract with RECORDED BOOKS, LLC, Prince Frederick, MD for unabridged audio books on compact disc for the Austin Public Library in an estimated amount not to exceed \$756,000, with three 12-month extension options in an estimated amount not to exceed \$252,000 per extension option, for a total estimated contract amount not to exceed \$1,512,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$210,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget of the Library Department. Funding for the remaining 26 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: Steve Cocke, Buyer II/974-2035

Purchasing Language: Sole Source.

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) No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

This contract is for the supply of approximately 8,500 spoken word compact discs, commonly referred to as "audio books", for the collection of the Austin Public Library, including the Austin History Center, the John Henry Faulk Central Library and the 20 branch libraries. The contractor will provide complete processing services that include recasing the CD's in CD strongboxes, applying barcodes to the strongbox, and adding security strips to each disc.

There are three primary sources of supply for audio books. Authors and/or publishers dictate the source of supply for their particular titles. Authors/publishers contract with Recorded Books or Books on Tape (a division of Random House, Inc.); therefore, each of these vendors is a sole source for a particular group of authors. These two firms publish the audio version of the book and sell directly to end users such as the Austin Public Library. Some authors/publishers will publish the audio book themselves and sell their titles through distribution.

The audio books purchased through this contract will be published by Recorded Books, LLC. The City has an existing contract with Random House for audio books available only through that source.

The City will receive a 10- 20% discount from Recorded Books LLC published price list for individual title orders (orders placed as needed for newly published audio books and back catalog items) and for all continuous order plans (blanket orders for books published serially, such as annual reference books and things like Hardy Boys or Nancy Drew).

All audio book orders include a processing fee of \$2.00 each.