Thursday, January 15, 2009

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 48

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the TEXAS MULTIPLE AWARD SCHEDULE (TXMAS) with REMOTEC, INC, Clinton, TN for the purchase of a robotic vehicle for the Austin Police Department in an amount not to exceed \$275,020.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Special Revenue Fund of the Management Services Department, Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management through the 2007 State Homeland Security Program funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Homeland Security Grant Program.

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

For More Information: Rosemary Ledesma, Supervising Senior Buyer/512-974-2011.

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 Contract; therefore, it is exempted under Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code and no goals were established.

This contract is for the purchase of an ANDROS Wolverine bomb robot vehicle with wireless remote system to be used by the Austin Police Department Bomb Squad. The Wolverine robot is designed for use in the outdoors and for clearing vehicles of suspicious articles of all sizes. The use of these robots has greatly reduced risk to the Bomb Technicians by allowing them to work on packages and vehicles from a distance of about 300 feet. The Bomb Squad is a two concept team, which allows response to two separate incidents at the same time. The purchase of this robot will complete the equipment for the second response vehicle. The squad responds to requests from the 10 county Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG) Region.

Remotec, Inc. is under contract through TXMAS to provide these products to other public entities statewide. This cooperative purchasing program is coordinated by the State of Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, and allows the City to use TXMAS contracts that have been developed from contracts that were competitively bid and awarded by the General Services Administration's Federal Supply Service.