

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Contract and Land Management RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 22

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with MURFEE ENGINEERING COMPANY, Austin, TX for engineering services for the Wildhorse Ranch Northwest Wastewater Interceptor - Phase 2 in the amount of \$422,415.76.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$422,415.76 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: John Wepryk 974-7010; Yvonne Gil Vallejo 703-6637; Robin Field 974-7064; April Thedford 974-7141

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 the Water and Wastewater Commission.

Prior Council Action: October 21, 2004 – Council authorized for Cost Reimbursement Agreement with Wildhorse Investments, Ltd.

The Austin Water Utility (AWU) has identified the need to construct the Wildhorse Ranch Northwest Wastewater Interceptor – Phase 2, which consists of approximately 6,228 linear feet of 15- to 24-inch wastewater line and two bores under Highway 290 and Decker Lane. The Wildhorse Ranch Northwest Wastewater Interceptor - Phase 2 is needed to relieve the existing Harris Branch Lift Station Number One and route flow away from the Harris Branch Wastewater Treatment Plant. This project was started as a developer's project in which the City participated in the costs. This project is defined by the Cost Reimbursement Agreement between the City of Austin and Wildhorse Investments, Ltd., effective June 12, 2003, and is part of the Water Service Extension Request (SER) No. 1941. Murfee Engineering Company designed and Lewis Contracting constructed the first phase of this interceptor for the developer.

This project was originally designed by Murfee Engineering Company for the developer, Wildhorse Investments, Ltd. in June 2004. It was never constructed due to delays related to easement acquisition during the permitting process.

Since 2004, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has proposed new improvements to Highway 290 which will affect a portion of this project. The wastewater interceptor route will be revised to minimize easement acquisition and to coordinate with future TxDOT expansion projects for Highway 290.

This authorization will provide for a professional services agreement to update the original design to conform to current standards and redesign the interceptor alignment crossing Highway 290. The professional services agreement will also include engineering for the bid, construction and warranty phases.

Murfee Engineering Company was retained by the developer and has been the engineer on the project from the early stages of the project. It has been determined that Murfee Engineering Company is the most qualified firm to update the project design, and to provide bid, construction and warranty phase engineering services for this project.