Thursday, June 18, 2009

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 40

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance with GAMETIME c/o TOTAL RECREATION PRODUCTS, INC., Cypress, TX for the purchase and installation of playground equipment in an amount not to exceed \$199,638.87.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Cruz Banda, Buyer II 974-2133

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 Purchase; therefore, it is exempted under Chapter 791 of the Texas Local Government Code and no goals were established for this solicitation.

This contract is for the purchase and installation of play equipment for Franklin Park and Montopolis Recreation Center playgrounds. The contract includes the demolition and removal of the existing worn play equipment, the installation of new playground equipment, and replacing the play surface. This contract will also include the installation of an existing piece of play equipment that was purchased through a separate contract in November 2008.

Franklin Park is located in Southeast Austin. This park serves many children from lower socio-economic homes. This has been the site of a free summer playground program in past years to provide structured recreation to neighborhood children during their break from school. New playground equipment will be used to inspire children to come to the park for recreation, exercise, and socialization. The existing equipment was installed in 1998 and requires constant maintenance and repairs.

Montopolis Park is located in east Austin and serves as a recreational hub for its community. Parents and children frequently visit the park and utilize the play equipment for recreation while waiting between medical appointments at the nearby neighborhood health center. The staff at the recreation center use the playground equipment during after school, summer, and other recreation programs teaching the children to exercise as a part of their daily routines. The existing equipment was installed in 1997 and is also in need of replacement.

Gametime c/o Total Recreation Products, Inc. is under contract with U.S. Communities to supply these materials and services statewide as a result of a competitive bidding process. This cooperative purchasing program was established as a national structure for local government agencies to make use of their collective purchasing power and is authorized under the provisions of the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Chapter 791, Texas Government Code.