

Thursday, August 20, 2009

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 26

Subject: Approve ratification of a contract with BENITEZ CONSTRUCTION INC. (MBE/MH), Manor, TX for the emergency repair of a 54-inch water transmission main for the Austin Water Utility for a total contract in an amount not to exceed \$61,256.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008–2009 Operating Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

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

For More Information: Steve Aden, Purchasing Manager, 974-2021.

Purchasing Language: Emergency Purchase.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9C 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 contract.

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

On Monday, July 6, 2009, a contractor bored a 4-inch hole in an existing 54-inch diameter water transmission main on Walsh Tarlton Lane while conducting geotechnical investigations. The main had to be shut down to make the necessary repairs. This main is vital to provide water service and fire protection to customers located south of the Colorado River. Due to the specialized construction methods required, the scope of repairs was beyond the capabilities of the Austin Water Utility's workforce. Three firms were contacted and only one could respond at the time to the City's immediate needs. All repairs were completed and services were returned to normal on July 8, 2009.

A purchase order was issued to Benitez Construction, Inc., on July 24, 2009, to pay contractor for the services rendered. Due to the emergency nature of this project to preserve the City's property and the time involved in advertising for these services, competitive bids were not obtained under the provisions of Local Government Code.