Thursday, September 24, 2009

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 65

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract with FD MANUFACTURING dba FD TRAINING INTERNATIONAL, INC., Granbury, TX, for the purchase of a Fire Engineer Training Simulator in an amount not to exceed \$58,600.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Vehicle Acquisition Fund.

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

For More Information: Sharon Patterson, Senior Buyer, 972-4014

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 purchase of a trailer-mounted Fire Engineer Training Simulator to be used by Fleet Services to test the fire pumps on city-owned fire equipment and by the Austin Fire Department for training purposes.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) requires that each pump is tested annually. Currently, to meet the NFPA annual requirements, an average of 700,000 gallons of water is used to test the pumps on all city-owned fire equipment. The purchase of the new Fire Engineer Training Simulator uses approximately 2,000 gallons of water which circulates within the system, saving approximately 680,000 gallons of water annually.

In addition to testing fire pumps, the unit can be used to train firefighters by simulating scenarios such as kinked hoses, equipment malfunctions, variations in water pressure, and other firefighting situations. The Fire Engineer Training Simulator includes a computer with software that is customized to match the fire equipment used by the Austin Fire Department.

FD Training International, Inc. is the only company in the U.S. to manufacture, sell, service, and provide training for the Fire Engineer Training Simulator. FD Training International, Inc. owns the copyrights to all software intellectual property.