Thursday, September 24, 2009

Contract and Land Management RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 29

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 1 to the professional services agreement with ELLERBE BECKET INC., Minneapolis, MN, for consulting services for Austin Energy's relocated Energy Control Center in the amount of \$4,206,767, which includes an increase of the original authorization in the amount of \$1,500,000, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$1,500,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget of the Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Laura Lee Franks 322-6854, Rosie Truelove 974-3064; 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) with 16.50% MBE and 14.20% WBE subconsultant participation to date.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission.

Prior Council Action: June 18, 2008 - Council approved the original consultant services contract.

In October 2005, Council approved the relocation of Austin Energy's Energy Control Center (ECC) from its current West Avenue location in order to incorporate the property into the Seaholm and downtown redevelopment efforts. In February 2007, Council approved the purchase of an existing office building on 12 acres on Montopolis between Riverside and Oltorf. In June 2008, Council approved a professional services agreement with Ellerbe Becket for architectural and engineering consulting services for the relocated Energy Control Center, renamed the "System Control Center."

This project necessitates the redesign of an existing building to accommodate functions and employees of the ECC and other compatible workgroups together into the new space. The new facility will be a mission critical, 24/7, secured space capable of serving the needs of the utility for many years.

The delivery method for this project is Construction Manager at Risk. The Construction Manager was recently contracted to begin pre-construction services and assist the project team in design efforts.

This consultant's work in the preliminary phases of the project included programming and the creation of a Site Master Plan. This work identified the desired functions and uses for the site. The proposed amendment reflects the need for an unanticipated increase in design services to complete the requirements identified in the planning stage. The original estimates were based strictly on the department's estimates for relocating to the new building, but the programming phase focused on the department's needs that were appropriate to the site.