

## AGENDA



Thursday, October 1, 2009

**Contract and Land Management  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Item No. 10

**Subject:** Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with the following five firms: HALFF ASSOCIATES, INC., Austin, TX; SURVEYING AND MAPPING (SAM) INC., Austin, TX; COBB, FENDLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC., Austin, TX; THE WALLACE GROUP, INC., Austin, TX; and TBE GROUP, INC./CARDNO TBE, Austin, TX, for the Subsurface Utility Engineering Services (SUE) Rotation List for various Capital Improvement Projects for an estimated period of two years or until financial authorization is expended, each agreement in an amount not to exceed \$400,000 per firm with the total amount for the five agreements not to exceed \$2,000,000.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Capital and/or Operating Budgets of the various departments for which services are needed.

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

**For More Information:** Christopher Newton 974-9119; Rosie Truelove 974-3064; April Thedford 974-7141

**Purchasing Language:** Best qualification statements of twelve (12) received.

**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) by meeting the goals with 9.54% MBE and 5.80% WBE subcontractor participation.

Design and construction projects are faced with the dilemma of a lack of accurate information on the location and identification of existing underground infrastructure that represent potential conflicts. Inaccurate underground utility information has resulted in numerous utility conflicts during construction, and has historically contributed to project delays, public inconvenience, business interruptions, utility damages, costly plan revisions, pay item negotiations, safety compromises, and other issues.

The City of Austin is interested in reducing and/or eliminating the costly factor(s) in project design and construction through the appropriate use of the subsurface utility engineering (SUE) technology to provide the designer with an accurate picture of the underground infrastructure early in the design stage of the project.

The SUE Consultant shall perform the following services: indication of the horizontal location of existing underground utilities by the application and interpretation of non-destructive surface geophysical techniques; acquisition of precise horizontal and vertical position, type, material, condition, size and other data that may reasonably be acquired concerning the utility facility and its surrounding environment through exposure by non-destructive excavation techniques; processing of the surveying utility information acquired in the "designating" and "locating" phase of service and submitting this information to the City of Austin; coordination of all activities with the SUE Services Rotation Contract Manager or City of Austin designee, to facilitate the orderly progress and timely completion of the City of Austin project design phase; and performance of miscellaneous activities such as traffic control, permits and right of entry, condition assessments and provide testimony as expert technical witness if necessary.

This rotation list will replace an existing SUE Rotation List that was approved by Council on July 13, 2005, which has exhausted its contracting authority.

This request allows for the development of a professional service agreement with each of the five recommended firms. Initial project assignments will be based on the firm's final ranking as determined during the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) evaluation (highest to lowest), the maximum cumulative contracted amount in comparison to the estimated task budget for that firm, and the firm's qualifications and availability of expertise at time of project need. If the City is unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory agreement with a recommended firm(s), if a selected firm ceases practice during the contract period or if the City elects to terminate its agreement with any of the selected firms, the remaining assignments will be distributed among the remaining firms as equally as possible.

**RECOMMENDED FIRMS:** Halff Associates, Inc.; Surveying and Mapping (SAM), Inc.; Cobb, Fendley & Associates, Inc.; The Wallace Group, Inc.; TBE Group, Inc. / Cardno TBE