

AGENDA



Thursday, November 5, 2009

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 34**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a 36-month requirements service contract with ECOSTAR LAWN AND LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT, Manchaca, TX, PAMPERED LAWN AUSTIN, INC., Austin, TX, and GREATER TEXAS LANDSCAPES, INC., Austin, TX to provide landscaping and mowing services in an estimated combined amount not to exceed \$615,009, with three 12-month extension options in an estimated combined amount not to exceed \$205,003 per extension option, for a total estimated combined contract amount not to exceed \$1,230,018.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$187,920 is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating Budget of the Parks and Recreation Department. Funding for the remaining 25 months of the original contract period and extension options is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

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

For More Information: Aiden Cohen, Senior Buyer, 972-4008

Purchasing Language: Three best-value bids of ten bids received.

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 solicitation.

This contract will provide mowing and landscaping-related services for medians and traffic triangles throughout the City of Austin. The contractors will provide all equipment, fuel, maintenance, and labor to the City to complete these services.

This contract will be awarded on a geographic basis with areas defined as North, South, and Central. Multiple vendors are necessary to ensure adequate available labor and equipment necessary to complete the work scope in a timely manner.

The City intends to reduce green-house gas emissions by promoting the use of cleaner-burning and alternative fuelled equipment for landscaping service contracts. The City's Responsible (Green) Purchasing Program, in conjunction with the Austin Climate Protection Program, has included sustainable criteria in this solicitation to encourage adoption of landscaping best practices. As a result of this contract, 100% of the large-engine lawn equipment provided by the recommended vendors will be powered by alternative fuels, rather than gasoline, reducing carbon emissions by approximately 20-40%. In addition to using either low-emissions propane or bio-diesel equipment, the recommended vendors will also reduce water usage by incorporating native plants into City projects. These "Best Value" solicitations are evaluated based on cost, equipment, and experience where bidders are awarded additional points for providing more innovative, effective, and sustainable products and services.

MBE/WBE solicited: 22/9 MBE/WBE bid: 1/0

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Adequate competition.
- b. One hundred twenty-nine notices were sent, including 22 MBEs and nine WBEs. Ten bids were received, including one response from MBE. No responses from WBEs.
- c. This is the first purchase of its type; therefore, there is no pricing history available.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Best evaluated bids of 10 bids received.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with the Parks and Recreation Department's recommended award.
- c. Advertised in the Austin American-Statesman and on the Internet.