Thursday, December 10, 2009

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 33

Subject: Authorize award and execution of Amendment No. 2 to increase the contract amount to the requirements service contract with FOX, SMOLEN & ASSOCIATES, INC., Austin, TX (WBE/FW) for the design and implementation of a public process for input on Austin Energy's long-range energy plan in an estimated amount not to exceed \$40,000, for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$307,835.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$40,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.

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

For More Information: Sandy Calles, Sr. Buyer/322-6487

Purchasing Language: Contract Amendment.

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.

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

Prior Council Action: April 24, 2008 – Approved 12-month contract.

This proposed Amendment No. 2, in the amount of \$40,000, will allow the Contractor to continue facilitation of the public involvement process to gather broad and inclusive community input for Austin Energy's long-range energy plan.

In addition, a website (www.AustinSmartEnergy.com) is hosted and maintained by the Contractor, whose services are needed for the duration of the public involvement process. The website is a forum for discussion and assessment of fossil fuel energy options, renewable energy technologies, alternative energy technologies, emerging energy technologies, energy efficiency programs, and customergenerated energy. It includes questions and answers from public meetings, notices of meetings, information regarding Austin Energy and its long-range energy plan, presentations, recommendations by the Austin Generation Resource Planning Task Force, Electric Utility Commission and the Resource Management Commission, and a blog.

City Council approved the original contract on April 24, 2008. Amendment No. 1 was to process an administrative increase in the amount of \$30,000 to allow the contractor to facilitate two additional town hall meetings, handle publicity, complete survey tabulations and presentations.