

AGENDA



Thursday, October 14, 2010

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 32**

Subject: Authorize award, negotiation, and execution of a professional services contract with THE PFM GROUP, Philadelphia, PA, or one of the other qualified responders to the RFQ, for the Cost of Service Study for the Planning and Development Review Department in an estimated contract amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Capital Budget of the Planning and Development Review Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Steve Cocke/Buyer II, 974-2003

MBE/WBE: This Professional Services contract is exempt from the MBE/WBE Ordinance. This exemption is in compliance with Chapter 2-9B 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 contract.

This professional services contract is for a Cost of Service Study for the Planning and Development Review Department. The recent reorganization of the Watershed Protection One Stop Shop and the Planning Department into Planning and Development Review Department, as well as the current economic conditions makes this an ideal time for this service to occur.

It has been many years since the fees charged by the City of Austin for Development Review, Permitting Review, and Building Inspections have been reviewed in a thorough manner. The comprehensive nature of development regulations and ordinances in Austin prevent simple fee comparisons with other cities and require an accounting base cost of service as cited by Governmental Financial Officers Associations.

The other two respondents for this RFQ included two companies, both of which are considered qualified to perform the work.

1. Malcolm Pirnie, Inc. Red Oak Consulting, White Plains, NY; 2. Maximus, Inc., Northbrook, IL

This request allows for the development of an agreement with a qualified responder that Council selects. If the City is unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory agreement with the selected responder, negotiations will cease with that provider. Staff will return to Council so that Council may select another qualified responder and authorize contract negotiations with this provider.