Thursday, December 9, 2010

Contract and Land Management RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 12

Subject: Authorize the negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with STANLEY CONSULTANTS, INC., Austin, TX, or one of the other qualified responders to RFQ Solicitation No. CLMP063, to provide professional engineering services for Electric Service Delivery in an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$2,500,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Capital Budget of Austin Energy. Funding in the amount of \$500,000 is available in the Operating Budget of Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Dorthy Kester 505-7041; David Wood 322-6940; Rolando Fernandez 974-3064; Sarah Terry 974-7141.

Purchasing Language: Staff recommendation is the most qualified firm out of six firms evaluated through the City's qualification-based selection process.

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 15.80% MBE and 15.80% WBE subconsultant participation.

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

This professional services agreement will continue to provide Austin Energy with technical services and advice for Electric Service Delivery including production of turn-key projects and construction drawing packages on an as-needed basis only. The selected contractor will be capable of supplying on-site engineering, technical, and drafting personnel to augment Austin Energy staff as needed.

The selected contractor is not guaranteed any or all of the contracted amount. Past use of the contract included supplementing CAD services during times of increased development, permitting services for new infrastructure, and NERC compliance assessments. Payments to the contractor have averaged \$670,000 per year.

The selected firm will also be capable of providing engineering and associated services on projects for Austin Energy's Transmission, Substation, Distribution, Planning, Project Management, Operations, Real Estate, and Network Engineering work units. Related engineering services necessary for the implementation of a project may require: Design Criteria, Right-of-Way and Siting Services, and Engineering Design Services.

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.

RECOMMENDED FIRM: STANLEY CONSULTANTS, INC. FIRST ALTERNATE FIRM: M&S ENGINEERING, L.L.C.

Participation subgoals stated in the solicitation were: 1.90% African American; 9.00% Hispanic; 4.90% Native/Asian; and 15.80% WBE. The recommended and alternate firms provided an MBE/WBE Compliance Plan that met the goals of the solicitation and was approved by the Small and Minority Business Resources Department.

Notification of issuance of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the subject services was sent to 353 firms on September 13, 2010. The RFQ was obtained by 37 firms, and six firms submitted qualification statements. None of the firms were certified MBE/WBE firms.