

## AGENDA



Thursday, February 17, 2011

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

Item No. 13

**Subject:** Authorize the negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with URS CORPORATION, Austin, TX, (staff recommendation) or one of the other qualified responders to RFQ Solicitation No. CLMP067, to provide Professional Planning Services for the Austin Urban Rail NEPA Environmental Services project with an amount not to exceed \$700,000.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Capital Budget of the Austin Transportation Department.

**Fiscal Note:** A fiscal note is attached.

**For More Information:** Gordon Derr, 974-7228; Rolando Fernandez, 974-7749; Felecia Shaw, 974-7141

**Purchasing Language:** Staff recommendation is the most qualified firm out of 3 firms evaluated through the City's qualification-based selection process.

**MBE/WBE:** This contract will be awarded in compliance with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Procurement Program) and Chapter 2-9B of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goal with 13.00% DBE subconsultant participation.

The City has identified a need for a transit investment that will provide critical connections between Central Austin activity centers; linkages to Mueller Redevelopment, Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, and the emerging regional rail network; and to encourage efficient urban development in Central Austin. The City is proposing a 16.5-mile Urban Rail Program as a part of the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan. The selected firm will prepare a National Environmental Policy Act 1969 (NEPA) study in accordance with Federal regulations. As part of the NEPA process, the City will formally identify a lead federal agency, publish a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an appropriate type of NEPA study, begin public outreach, and continue with Program development. The objective of the NEPA study is to evaluate alternatives and make decisions such as those relative to the level of rail service to be provided within the corridor, including variations in train frequency, trip time, and on-time performance, a preferred crossing alternative for Lady Bird Lake, and a preferred First Investment Segment (FIS).

The selected firm will provide professional transportation and environmental planning services to evaluate the environmental effects of the implementation of the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) as part of the Program. The work to be performed by the selected firm, which will be supervised and overseen by the City, is as follows: Project Administration/Coordination/Communication including Contract Management

Project Organization and Planning

Early Coordination, Public Involvement, and Deliverables

Initial Study and Notice of Intent

Scoping Meeting

## Alternatives Considered and Evaluated

### Environmental Analyses/Studies

#### Initial Draft EA/EIS and Related Technical Support

#### Draft EA/EIS

#### Public Hearings and Meetings

#### Responses to Comments

#### Final EA/EIS

Request for Record of Decision (ROD) This request allows for the development of a professional services agreement with the recommended firm. If the City is unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory agreement with the recommended firm, negotiations will cease with that firm. Staff will return to Council and request authorization to begin negotiations with the alternate recommendation listed below.

#### RECOMMENDED FIRM:

URS Corporation, Austin, TX

#### ALTERNATE FIRM:

HDR Engineering, Inc., Austin, TX

The participation goal stated in the solicitation was 11.0% DBE. The recommended firm and alternate firm provided a DBE Compliance Plan that met the goal 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 307 firms on September 17, 2010. The RFQ was obtained by 65 firms, and 4 firms submitted qualification statements. One of the firms was deemed non-responsive. One of the firms was a certified WBE firm.