

AGENDA



Thursday, February 17, 2011

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**
Item No. 42

Subject: Authorize the award and execution of a contract with TEXAS HIGHWAY PRODUCTS, Round Rock, Texas, for the purchase of "Wireless School Zone Flashing Beacon Management System" including 30 master and 400 local wireless radio and antennas, 100,000 ft. of cables, and 1500 connectors, training, and a 7-year warranty, in an estimated amount not to exceed \$534,450.

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

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

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

Purchasing Language: Sole responsive bid of two 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.

The Austin Transportation Department, Traffic Signal Division is requesting approval to purchase this "wireless radio school zone flashing beacon management system" in order to be able to program, monitor, and manage school zones flashers from the Traffic Management Center. Currently, school flashers are programmed manually at each location in the field throughout the city. The process is time consuming and inefficient. In addition, the internal clocks in the flashers often drift. That causes the flashers to activate at the wrong time potentially creating an unsafe situation. The new system will provide the ability to remotely program, and monitor the system, thus eliminating travel to each individual site for programming. The result will be quicker response times and less manpower. The internal clocks in the new system will be kept in sync from the remote location; the result will be greater precision regarding the activation and de-activation of the flashers.

MBE/WBE solicited: 4/3

MBE/WBE bid: 0/0

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Adequate competition.
- b. Sixty-nine notices were sent, including four MBEs and three WBEs. Two bids received, with no response from the MBE/WBEs.
- c. This is the first purchase of its type; therefore, there is no pricing history available.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Two bids received. Texas Highway Products was the only responsive bid.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with the Transportation Department's recommended award.
- c. Advertised in the Austin American-Statesman and on the Internet.