

## AGENDA



Thursday, March 3, 2011

**Contract and Land Management  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 7**

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**Subject:** Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with ZARA ENVIRONMENTAL, LLC, (WBE/FW- 100%), Manchacha, TX, for engineering services to collect and analyze subsurface drainage data near the Davis/Deer from Brodie to Corran Ferry project in an amount not to exceed \$225,000.

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

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

**For More Information:** Jonathan Thompson, 974-1504; Susan Garnett, 974-7064; Felecia Shaw, 974-7141

**Purchasing Language:** Single source.

**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). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

**Prior Council Action:** April 29, 2010 - City Council authorized execution of a construction contract with YANTIS COMPANY, San Antonio, TX, for the Davis/Deer from Corran Ferry to Brodie Lane project.

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The Davis/Deer from Brodie to Corran Ferry project consists primarily of 0.8 miles of four lane divided arterial roadway with a raised center median, bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides of the roadway. The new arterial roadway will eliminate an offset intersection and the bottleneck west of Brodie Lane by replacing the existing two-lane section of Deer Lane with a four-lane section that aligns with Davis Lane east of Brodie Lane and matches the existing four-lane cross-section to the west. The project is located approximately one-half mile north of the Slaughter Lane/Brodie Lane intersection within the 78749 zip code.

Construction of the project was awarded to the Yantis Company on April 29, 2010. During preliminary construction activities, the Balcones Canyonland Conservation Plan (BCCP) representatives requested that additional data collection and analysis be conducted to ensure compliance with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) permit. Following extensive meetings and discussions with BCCP and City of Austin Watershed Protection Department (WPD), the scope of the study was established.

The study is intended to collect and analyze data to establish the subsurface drainage characteristics of the project area and determine potential impacts to nearby caves. In accordance with BCCP and WPD recommendations, the consultant will perform several iterations of tracer injections and cave drip monitoring to collect the necessary drainage data. All proposed tracer materials and cave entry protocols will be approved and monitored by BCCP and/or WPD personnel.

The proposed data collection and analysis methods are highly specialized and are not performed as part of a standard environmental assessment and the proposed firm is the only identified consultant with a

record of successfully performing this type of study. Furthermore, the proposed consultant possesses several permits and licenses which are required for work within the identified caves that are not widely held by other available firms.

This authorization provides for funding of services related to data collection, scientific analysis and report services only.

This request allows for the development of a professional services agreement with the recommended firm.