

AGENDA



Thursday, March 3, 2011

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 14**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a 12-month requirements service contract with GREATER TEXAS LANDSCAPE SERVICES., Austin, TX, or one of the other qualified bidders for IFB-BV No. TVN0054REBID, to provide grounds maintenance services in an estimated amount not to exceed \$81,675, with four 12-month extension options in an estimated amount not to exceed \$81,675 per extension option, for an estimated total contract amount not to exceed \$408,375.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$47,644 is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Operating Budget of Austin Energy. Funding for the remaining five months of the original contract period and extension options is contingent upon funding in future budgets.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Terry Nicholson, Senior Buyer/512-322-6586

Purchasing Language: Best evaluated bid of nine 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.

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

This service agreement will provide labor, equipment and supervision for the performance of routine grass mowing and edging at Austin Energy (AE) substations and other locations. The contract will provide a consistent standard for landscaping and ground maintenance to assure appropriate landscape management and lawn care. The Contractor will be responsible for maintaining all equipment necessary for proper maintenance of each location. The Contractor's employees will be required to successfully pass the standard AE security screening process before they may work at any AE location.

The City intends to reduce emissions by promoting the use of cleaner-burning, reduced-emissions powered equipment on contracts for these types of services. The City of Austin Climate Protection team has provided guidelines for emissions reduction, which were included in this solicitation. These guidelines include the use of alternative fuels rather than gasoline in the large engine lawn equipment used. It also includes the requirement for the use of other sustainable practices by evaluating the bids based on a "Best Value" analysis. These "Best Value" solicitations are evaluated primarily on cost, but also include other criteria such as clean burning equipment offered, experience, certifications and training, and company practices where bidders are awarded additional points for providing more innovative, effective, and sustainable products and services.

This request allows for the execution of a contract with a bidder, who provides the best value to the City, that Council selects. If this bidder does not execute a contract with the City, staff will return to Council so that Council may select another best value bidder and authorize a contract with this bidder.

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Adequate competition.
- b. One hundred thirty-six notices were sent including 17 MBEs and 10 WBEs. Nine bids were received, including two MBEs and one WBE.
- c. The pricing offered represents a 2% decrease from the last contract award made in May 2005.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Best evaluated bid received. Greater Texas Landscape Services is not the current provider of this service.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with the Austin Energy's recommended award.
- c. Advertised on the Internet.