

AGENDA



Thursday, March 3, 2011

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 17**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the TEXAS MULTIPLE AWARD SCHEDULE (TXMAS) with TRANE U.S., INC., La Crosse, WI to purchase and install two cooling towers at the John Henry Faulk Library in an amount not to exceed \$139,692.

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

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Cruz Banda, Buyer II/974-2133; Heidi Tse, Library Building Improvement Coordinator/974-7493

Purchasing Language: Cooperative Purchase (TXMAS).

MBE/WBE: This Cooperative Contract is exempt from the MBE/WBE Ordinance. This exemption is in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). Although no goals were established for this solicitation, 0.00% MBE and 26.70% WBE subcontractor participation has been met.
Related to Item #16.

This contract with Trane U.S., Inc. will replace two, two-cell cooling towers at the John Henry Faulk Library with two new single cell towers. The existing towers are in poor condition and are susceptible to failure. A failure of this type would have far reaching effects by causing a loss of air conditioning to both the Library and History Center.

A cooling tower is a heat rejection device that extracts waste heat to the atmosphere through the cooling of a water stream to a lower temperature. The towers being replaced provides cooled water for air-conditioning on the J.H. Faulk Library and Austin History Center campus.

This is the Austin Public Library Department's busiest location, and the History Center has critical cooling needs for archive storage and preservation. A failure of these towers could create wide temperature and humidity swings that would damage archives in the History Center, and cause the closure of the Faulk Library until repairs could be made. In addition, it could take 8 to 10 weeks for a replacement to arrive from the manufacturer even in the event of an emergency.

The new cooling towers will be equipped with Variable Frequency Drives that will provide improved dependability, operation, and reduced energy consumption. This can greatly reduce operating costs, and will provide a reduction of the Library Department's carbon footprint.

Through a separate, related purchase, a chiller will be provided by Trane U.S., Inc. and will be funded by the Department of Energy grant to Austin Energy. The chiller is used to provide chilled water for air conditioning for the buildings.

This action will result in reducing the facility's electrical demand by an estimated 5.2 kW, and annual energy usage by an estimated 16,254 kWh per year. These savings are equivalent to an estimated 11 tons of Carbon Dioxide, 21,913 vehicle miles traveled, removal of 1.9 cars from our roadways, the planting of 251 trees, or 13 acres of forest in Austin's parks.

Trane U.S., Inc is contracted through TXMAS to provide this service and equipment to other public entities state-wide. The cooperative purchasing program is coordinated by the State of Texas, Comptroller of Public Accounts and allows the City to use TXMAS contracts that have been developed from contracts that were competitively bid and awarded by the General Services Administrations Federal Supply Service.