

AGENDA



Thursday, March 24, 2011

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 35**

Subject: Authorize award, negotiation, and execution of a contract through the State of Texas Department of Information Resources cooperative purchasing program with ePLUS TECHNOLOGY, INC., Herndon, VA for network design services in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Capital Budget of the Finance and Administrative Services Department, Communications and Technology Management.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Mick Osborne, Specialist Sr. Buyer/974-2995

MBE/WBE: This Cooperative Purchase is exempt from the MBE/WBE Ordinance. This exemption is 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 contract.

The City's current fiber optic network, City of Austin Telecommunications Network (COATN), cannot adequately support existing and future telecommunication projects due to a lack of capacity to transmit large amounts of data and a lack of adequate bandwidth. The current fiber optic network equipment (Cisco RPR) has been announced end-of-life by the manufacturer (December 2009). End of Support for the existing COATN hardware will be December 2014. There is a critical need to upgrade the current fiber optic network within the next 36 months.

This contract will include services to provide the following deliverables:

- Network design, creation of technical specifications, and creation of a scope of work for a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the purchase and implementation of the system.
- Provide RFP evaluation and negotiation assistance for the procurement phase.
- Provide design validation and optimization of the proposed solution.

The City can ensure adequate bandwidth resources for many years to come by upgrading the fiber optic electronics to Dense Wave Division Multiplexing (DWDM) technology. This will enable the City's network infrastructure to accommodate any next-generation form of data activity on the network such as proliferation of video web streaming, video training, and video teleconferencing and event monitoring.

This contract is for the first phase of the project to include management and technical services to design a Dense Wave Division Multiplexing (DWDM) technology solution. The solution will directly support the needs of the APD Digital Vehicular Video (DVV) project and the Combined Transportation and Emergency Communications Center (CTECC) backup and disaster recovery requirements (Phase 1 of the City of Austin Optical Network upgrade). The solution will include network design, hardware requirements, and best practices for DWDM implementation.