

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (CMD)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	20574	Agenda Number	8.
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Meeting Date: December 13, 2012

Department: Contract Management

Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with FREESE AND NICHOLS, INC. (staff recommendation) or one of the other qualified responders to RFQ Solicitation No. CLMP116, to provide engineering services for the Stormwater Criteria Updates project in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Operating Budget of the Watershed Protection Department.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not needed.

Purchasing Language: Staff recommendation is the most qualified firm out of five firms evaluated through the City's qualification-based selection process.

Prior Council Action: [REDACTED]

For More Information: Roxanne Cook 974-3382; Rolando Fernandez 974-7749; Esther Montoya 974-3357; April Shaw 974-7141.

Boards and Commission Action: [REDACTED]

MBE / WBE:

Related Items: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9B of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 15.80% MBE and 15.80% WBE subcontractor participation.

Additional Backup Information

The Watershed Protection Department desires upgrades to the City's Drainage Criteria Manual (DCM) and will require a consultant to provide specialized engineering services to update and clarify the City's stormwater criteria (drainage and environmental criteria manuals) to support the newly adopted Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan and soon-to-be-adopted Watershed Protection Ordinance and subsequent changes to the Land Development Code and other City criteria manuals. The updates will occur in two phases.

As part of Phase One, the Watershed Department desires to update the City's DCM, Section 6, Open Channels and Section 8, Stormwater Management. The revisions to Section 6 of the DCM will provide comprehensive, understandable and defensible design criteria and modeling methods for sustainable open channel design practices that consider not only stormwater conveyance, but also long-term maintenance costs, ecosystem function and water quality protection. The selected consultant will prepare a description of volumetric flood detention and provide guidelines on how to design a volumetric control detention pond in DCM Section 8 as a voluntary detention method that can be utilized in situations where there are downstream drainage issues.

Additional projects will be assigned as part of Phase 2 on an as-needed basis. The anticipated services for those projects may include, but are not limited to, updating, clarifying, or combining other sections of the City's stormwater criteria manuals. Services may include additions, changes or clarifications to the stormwater criteria manuals to accommodate ordinance and code changes such as the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, the Watershed Protection Ordinance, Land Development Code Subdivision Chapter and Transportation Criteria Manual revisions. For example, the criteria manuals could be updated to include, but not be limited to, drainage criteria related to low impact development; green infrastructure; drainage and water quality modifications for revised subdivision layouts and street designs; and modifications for underground detention. Since most of the anticipated ordinances, code and criteria revisions have yet to be finalized, modifications to the criteria manuals will be determined, if necessary, as the changes are approved.

This authorization provides for funding of services related to engineering services.

This request allows for the development of an agreement with staff's recommendation or another qualified responder that Council selects. If the City is unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory agreement with the selected responder, negotiations will cease with that provider. Staff will return to Council so that Council may select another qualified responder and authorize contract negotiations with this provider.

Participation subgoals stated in the solicitation were 1.90% African American; 9.00% Hispanic; 4.90% Native/Asian; 15.80% WBE. The recommended firm and alternate firm provided MBE/WBE Compliance Plans that met the goals of the solicitation and were approved by the Small and Minority Business Resources Department.

Notification of issuance of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the subject services was sent to 1124 firms on August 10, 2012. The RFQ was obtained by 134 firms and 5 submitted qualification statements. None of the firms were certified MBE or WBE firms. Of the 5 firms evaluated, 4 firms were short-listed and interviewed. Interviewing of the short-listed firms results in the following recommendation.

RECOMMENDED FIRM: FREESE AND NICHOLS, INC.

ALTERNATE FIRM: GEOSYNTEC CONSULTANTS

Freese and Nichols, Inc. is located in Austin, TX.