

## A G E N D A



## Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council

Item ID:

Agenda Number

42.

Meeting Date:

December 13, 2012

Department:

Purchasing

## Subject

Authorize award, negotiation, and execution of a 24-month requirements service contract through the U. S. General Services Administration (GSA) Cooperative Purchasing Program with MEDGATE, INC., to provide a wellness tracking system for the Austin Fire Department in the amount of \$136,000 with three 12-month extension options in an estimated amount not to exceed \$43,000 for the first extension option, and \$38,000 each for the second and third extension options, for a total estimated contract amount not to exceed \$255,000.

## Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$83,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Operating Budget of the Austin Fire Department. Funding for the remaining 14 months of the original contract period and the extension options is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

## Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing  
Language:

Cooperative Purchase

Prior Council  
Action:For More  
Information:

Brenda Helgren, Sr. Buyer/974-9141

Boards and  
Commission  
Action:

MBE / WBE:

Related Items:

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 contract.

## Additional Backup Information

This contract with MedGate, Inc., Colorado Springs, CO, is for a hosted Wellness Tracking System that will provide the Austin Fire Department (AFD) with a system to monitor the health and fitness status of Austin's firefighters to ensure that they can respond to the citizens of Austin quickly and safely, with the central mission of the "preservation of life and property." Additionally, as part of the 10 City Wellness and Fitness Initiative project, AFD has committed to providing the International Association of Firefighters/ International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFF /IAFC) with aggregate data concerning the health, fitness, and medical status of AFD firefighters. The only way to adequately and accurately capture this health and fitness data and comply with the initiatives is through the purchase and implementation of a Wellness Tracking System (WTS).

A WTS system will allow the department to input data in a fairly seamless manner at the point of testing, and then query and analyze the data and provide results and recommendations to department executive teams regarding health, fitness, and medical interventions. At the Wellness level, a WTS system would streamline processes by providing point of entry testing, electronic means of notifications (fulfilling COA Green Initiative goals) and an integrated scheduling module. It is anticipated that the WTS system will eventually make the department more efficient, particularly at querying and analyzing data, so that it can modify interventions to result in a healthier, fitter workforce. It is also well-documented that healthier and fitter employees save the city money by decreasing on-the-job injury and illness claims, resulting in savings of citizens' tax dollars. Ultimately, the citizens of Austin benefit from a WTS system purchase through tax money savings as well as having the peace of mind knowing that the public safety responders of Austin will be able to take care of their lives and property, and keep them safe.

This software application will:

- Convert existing paper processes into electronic records.
- Enable data analysis and timely reporting of medical data. This data will be used at the local as well as national level.
- Allow for annual medical surveillance to track the firefighter's ability to perform their essential job tasks safely. This information is needed to make interventions designed to enhance firefighter safety. Without this system, AFD will be unable to identify trends in an easily accessible way. The department will also be unable to report information on a local and national level, as a result the health and well-being of firefighters could be compromised.
- Allow for a more streamlined and efficient approach to wellness management and occupational health surveillance. This initiative comes from the IAFF Ten City Wellness and Fitness Initiative (WFI), a conglomeration of 10 cities contacted to set the standard for the industry in the area of health and fitness.

In the interest of validating the best use of the City's funds, the City issued a Request for Proposal for this hosted solution.

In reviewing the proposal received, the vendor conveyed the product was also available through the GSA contract. The results of this solicitation were compared with prices from the available cooperative. The price offered through the cooperatives had a cost savings of \$16,165 over proposal received.