

CIP EXPENSE DETAIL

DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:
CONTACT DEPARTMENT(S):

5/26/14
CMD / WPD

SUBJECT:

Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with HDR ENGINEERING, INC. (staff recommendation) or one of the other qualified responders to RFQ Solicitation No. CLMP153, to provide consultant services for Floodplain Evacuation Support Services project in an amount not to exceed \$12,000,000.

CURRENT YEAR IMPACT:

Department:	Watershed
Project Name:	Onion Creek Buyouts
Fund/Department/Unit:	4850 6307 9793
Funding Source:	Certificates of Obligation
Current Appropriation:	35,500,000.00
Unencumbered Balance:	35,500,000.00
Amount of This Action:	<u>(12,000,000.00)</u>
Remaining Balance:	<u>23,500,000.00</u>

ANALYSIS / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On October 31, 2013, a flood of record occurred on Onion Creek. Although there was damage in many parts of the city, the most substantial damage was concentrated in the lower Onion Creek area. There are more than 450 residences at risk of flooding in the 100-year floodplain in this area and the Watershed Protection Department would like to relocate all of the occupants to homes safe from flooding.

The Watershed Protection Department has partnered with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) since 1999 to find solutions to flooding in the Onion Creek watershed. The joint study recommended a project to buyout homes in the 25-year floodplain within the Lower Onion Creek area. The study selected the homes due to their high risk of flooding. These neighborhoods were temporarily evacuated in 1998, 2001 and again in the Halloween Flood of 2013.

At the time of the Halloween Flood of 2013 the City had already purchased 323 homes located in the USACE study buyout area. As of the end of May 2014, the City has acquired an additional 84 properties, leaving 76 properties still to be acquired within the USACE boundaries.

There are an estimated 371 properties located outside of the USACE buyout project area that will remain at risk of flooding in the Lower Onion Creek area of the Onion Creek watershed. The Watershed Protection Department anticipates receiving funds to purchase approximately 371 properties based on their risk of flooding and remove the risk of these homes being flooded in the future.

The Floodplain Evacuation Support Services Consultant (FESSC) will assist with these services. The FESSC shall provide the necessary support services to assist the City with the implementation of all mitigation activities associated with the buyout of properties located within the Lower Onion Creek area in the Onion

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Creek watershed. This effort will be referred to as the Flood Hazard Mitigation Buyout Program (Program).

The implementation of the Program will be undertaken in accordance with applicable City of Austin Ordinances and/or policies, federal, state and local rules, regulations, applicable funding source guidance and laws.

The FESSC will provide such services as needed to include, but not limited to, the following:

- Accounting systems, audit and record keeping requirements
- Finance and Grants Management
- Program development, planning and scheduling
- Reporting, budgeting and accounting
- Federal Agency coordination, compliance and administration
- Quality assurance and program control measures
- Public relation activities
- Property boundary surveying and mapping to be formatted electronically in AutoCAD
- Lead based paint and asbestos containing material testing and specifications for removal
- Air and Environmental Monitoring
- Acquisition and negotiations pursuant to local/state and federal regulations
- Real Estate Appraisal and Review Appraisals compliant with local/state and/or federal regulations
- Relocation planning, replacement housing calculations/eligibility and assistance pursuant to local/state and/or federal regulations
- Real estate property management
- Davis Bacon wage compliance oversight

This authorization provides for funding of the Floodplain Evacuation Support Services Consultant and allows for the development of an agreement with the 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 goals stated in the solicitation were 9.60 % DBE. The recommended firm provided a DBE Compliance Plan that met the goals of the solicitation and was approved by the Small and Minority Business Resources Department. The alternate firm provided a DBE Compliance Plan that met the goals of the solicitation and was 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 2628 firms on April 4, 2014. The RFQ was obtained by 91 firms and 6 submitted qualification statements. None of the firms were certified as DBE firms. Of the six firms evaluated, one firm was recommended by staff. Interviews were not necessary to determine the recommended firm.

RECOMMENDED FIRM: HDR Engineering Inc.

ALTERNATE FIRM: Leidos, Inc.

HDR Engineering Inc. is located in Austin, TX.

Leidos, Inc. is located in Austin, TX.