

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	40388	Agenda Number	14.
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Meeting Date:	May 21, 2015
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Department:	Purchasing
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Subject

Authorize award and execution of a 12-month service contract with PURE TECHNOLOGIES US, INC. for non-destructive leak and condition assessment of large diameter transmission mains for Austin Water in an amount not to exceed \$685,508, with two 12-month extension options in an amount not to exceed \$685,508 per extension option, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$2,056,524.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$228,502 is available in the Fiscal Year 2014 – 2015 Operating Budget of Austin Water. Funding for the remaining eight months of the initial contract period and extension options are contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Fiscal Note

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

Purchasing Language:	Sole Source with the previous provider of patented technology used to provide non-destructive leak detection services of large diameter water mains.
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Prior Council Action:	
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For More Information:	Steve Aden, Purchasing Manager, 512-972-0047
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Boards and Commission Action:	May 13, 2015 – Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission on a 5-0 vote with Commissioner Moriarty and Ohueri absent.
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Related Items:	
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MBE / WBE:	This contract will be awarded as a sole source and is exempt from City Code 2-9C Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program as specified in Texas Government Code Section 252.022.
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Additional Backup Information

The contract with Pure Technologies US Inc. is to provide leak detection and condition assessment of large diameter transmission mains for Austin Water. Pure Technologies will use four proprietary technologies, Smartball® and Sahara® will be used for the identification and location of leaks in large diameter transmission mains; and P-Wave® and PipeDiver® are used to predict the rate of deterioration of the pipe so that measures can be taken to prevent pipe failure. These leaks tend to be difficult to locate until they have reached the point of causing considerable damage. Locating these leaks will allow Austin Water to avoid main failures, as well as help reduce the volume of water lost to leaks.

1. Smartball® – This is an electronic ball that is released into a pipeline to “listen” for leaks. This technology allows for leak detection surveys covering long distances.
2. Sahara® - This is a tethered leak detection tool. This technology allows the Utility to pinpoint the location of leaks.
3. P-Wave® Electromagnetic Inspection – This technology utilizes equipment inserted into concrete steel cylinder (CSC) pipes that have been drained. This method also allows for the visual inspection of the inside of the pipeline.
4. PipeDiver® Electromagnetic Inspection – This technology utilizes equipment inserted into CSC mains that are under pressure, which allows the mains to be assessed while remaining in service.

The City awarded the previous contract in 2011, and since then this technology has allowed Austin Water to locate, excavate and repair leaks in a timely and efficient manner. This technology has been used worldwide in potable water mains, wastewater mains and in oil and petroleum mains. It has been found to be the most accurate technology available to locate very small leaks.

In comparison to the previous contract, the unit prices in the new contract represent a 7% increase.

Pure Technologies US, Inc. owns the patents to all four of these technologies and provides this service using these methods.