

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (CMD)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	46789	Agenda Number	4.
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Meeting Date: June 25, 2015

Department: Contract Management

Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of an amendment to the professional services agreement with FOUND DESIGN LLC, dba MERJE, to provide design services for the Austin Downtown Wayfinding System in the amount of \$144,324 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$463,478.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Capital Budget of the Austin Transportation Department.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	Initial contract award to the most qualified firm out of 8 firms evaluated through the City's qualification-based selection process. Amendment was reviewed and approved by the City's Change Control Committee.
Prior Council Action:	September 22, 2011, authorized negotiation and execution of planning contract; December 6, 2012, authorized negotiation and execution of a design services amendment # 1.
For More Information:	David Taylor, 512-974-7132; Tonya Swartzendruber, 512-974-3462; Lucy Bonee, 512-974-7967; Elizabeth Godfrey, 512-974-7141
Boards and Commission Action:	
Related Items:	
MBE / WBE:	This contract was awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9B Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program by meeting the goals with 21.08% MBE and 21.96% WBE participation to date.

Additional Backup Information

On September 22, 2011, Council authorized staff to negotiate and execute a contract with Found Design LLC, dba MERJE, for planning design services for the Austin Downtown Wayfinding System. Wayfinding is a sign system that assists in navigation from place to place. There are four basic stages in wayfinding: orientation, route decision, route monitoring, and destination recognition.

This initial contract was executed on November 18, 2011 for Phases 1 and 2 in the amount of \$176,597. Phase 1 included analysis of existing conditions, numerous stakeholder interviews, identification of destinations, development of the concept plan and several presentations. Phase 2 included development of schematic designs for all sign types, specific location programming and surveying, development of the Master Plan with additional rounds of stakeholder meetings and presentations. The Master Plan was presented to Council on November 8, 2012.

On December 6, 2013, Council authorized additional funding in the amount of \$86,154. This funding allowed for the development of a Wayfinding Graphics Manual covering all sign types. On January 29, 2014, administrative authority in the amount of \$51,126 was used to initiate preparation of bid documents for the first signage packages. This included key stakeholder participation in the completion of the main map graphics and GIS locations for programmed pedestrian and vehicular signs. The current contract total is \$313,877.89.

This request is for additional design services for map graphics and construction administration services. The project is preparing to bid in July 2015 with the first phases of signage to be installed in late 2015. Additional phases will follow in 2016 and 2017, as funding is made available. Many of these signs will be mounted on existing poles, most will only take a day or two to install, and work is not expected to have a significant impact on businesses, residents, or mobility.

This item was approved by the City's Change Control Committee and is managed by the Public Works Department.

Found Design LLC, dba MERJE, is located in West Chester, PA.