



**Recommendation for
Water & Wastewater Commission**

Commission Meeting Date:	May 10, 2017
Council Meeting Date:	May 18, 2017
Department:	Purchasing
SUBJECT	
Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with ZAPS TECHNOLOGIES, INC. , to provide two wastewater monitoring devices, in the amount of \$141,580.	
AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING	
Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Operating Budget of Austin Water.	
Purchasing Language:	Sole Source
Prior Council Action:	N/A
For More Information:	Gil Zilkha, 512-974-2696; Judy Musgrove; 512-972-0157
Boards and Commission Action:	May 10, 2017- To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.
MBE/WBE:	This contract is exempt from the City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established.

The contract is for the purchase of two Liquid Station Model 2000-400 instruments from ZAPS Technologies. These instruments will be used at the South Austin Regional Wastewater Plant and the Walnut Creek Wastewater Plant. This is a sole source purchase that utilizes proprietary technology to measure over 25 parameters, i.e., microbiological, physical and chemical components used to describe wastewater quality. The instrument also has an extended range which enables it to detect very low and very high levels of the same parameter. No chemicals or reagents are needed as the system uses optics to measure the different parameters. There are no other instruments on the market that measure 25 wastewater quality parameters in one instrument and at the specified low and high level range.

The data is collected from a steady stream of water and can record measurements as often as every two minutes. The data is transmitted by cellular phone to a database and is accessed through a web based platform. The operators at the plant can check the data as often as they wish, or receive alarms on the parameters of interest via an email or text message when the parameter reaches the alarm level.

The need for this instrument has materialized over the last few years as the influent wastewater stream has become increasingly volatile. The volatility is due in part to conservation efforts that lower the influent flows and thereby making the impact of industry discharges more prevalent. These instruments will save both money (for required chemicals) and time and will allow the wastewater plants to respond to changes in the influent quality more quickly and thereby avoiding discharge violations and/or a plant upset.

The manufacturer will train City staff on calibration and maintenance of the devices. There is no prior contract as this equipment has never been used in our facilities.