



**Purchasing Contract
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 22
AGENDA DATE: Thu 09/02/2004
PAGE: 1 of 2

SUBJECT: Authorize execution of a contract with TRADEWIND SCIENTIFIC LTD, Ottawa, Canada, for the purchase of a runway friction tester in an amount not to exceed \$49,500.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding in the amount of \$49,500 is available in the Fiscal Year 2003-2004 Amended Capital Budget of the Aviation Department. FAA Grant No. 31-Runway Equipment, Perimeter Road Study, and Elevator and Escalator Improvements, will pay for 75% of the bid price.

FISCAL NOTE: A fiscal note is attached.

REQUESTING Purchasing
DEPARTMENT: for Aviation;

DIRECTOR'S
AUTHORIZATION: Vickie Schubert

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Lydia Rodriguez-Torres, Buyer II, 530-7615

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

PURCHASING: Lowest bid of four bids received.

MBE / WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9 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 solicitation

This contract is for the purchase of a runway friction tester to be used by the Aviation Department for the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA). The runway friction tester will be used to survey runway pavement, to more effectively schedule maintenance, and to enhance aircraft operations, especially during severe winter weather.

Under certain conditions, hydroplaning or loss of traction can occur, which results in poor braking and possible loss of directional control by an airplane. According to the FAA Advisory Circular, airports with moderate turbojet traffic, such as ABIA, should survey their runways on a monthly basis.

This purchase consists of a tow-behind runway friction tester with a reservoir that supplies water to the tester. It is temporarily mounted in the bed of the tow vehicle. A laptop computer for data collection and automatic archiving will measure the pavement. The runway friction tester locates the area of pavement surface where friction has deteriorated below acceptable levels, allowing ABIA to pinpoint where repairs are needed. The vendor will train to ABIA staff to use the friction tester under the terms of the contract.

Runway friction testing services were previously provided by a contractor out of North Carolina at an annual expense of \$8,385 for up to six tests per year. The cost of the runway friction tester will cover the testing services costs within six years. As part of FAA Grant No. 31-Runway Equipment, Perimeter Road Study, and Elevator and Escalator Improvements, the City's actual cost will be only 25% of the bid price.

The City solicited two types of runway friction tester it considered for acquisition. Option one was a self-



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controlled vehicle; however, the cost was too high. Option two was the trailer-pulled tester, which is recommended.

MBE/WBE solicited: 0/0

MBE/WBE bid: 0/0

BID TABULATION

Runway Friction Tester
IFB No. LT04100166

VENDOR

TOTAL – Option 2

**TRADEWIND SCIENTIFIC, LTD
Ottawa, Ontario Canada**

\$49,500.00

FortBrand Services, Inc.
Plainview, New York

\$57,240.00

Neubert Aero Corp.
Tampa, Florida

\$95,970.50

Dynatest Consulting, Inc.
College Station, Texas

No bid

Complete bid tabulation is available in the Purchasing Office.

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Adequate competition.
- b. Thirty-two notices were sent. No MBEs or WBEs were available for this commodity. Eleven solicitations were issued. Four bids were received with no MBEs or WBEs responding.
- c. The cost to obtain service for six tests per year is approximately \$8,385. The cost to purchase the friction tester is \$49,500. The purchase of a friction tester will pay for itself within six years. The purchase of the equipment would allow for more frequent testing.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Low bidder.
- b. The Aviation Department concurs with the recommended award.
- c. Advertised in the Austin American-Statesman and the Internet.

CIP BUDGET FISCAL NOTE

DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:
WHERE ON AGENDA:
DEPARTMENT:

2-Sep-04
Resolution
Aviation

Description: Authorize execution of a contract with TRADEWIND SCIENTIFIC LTD, Ottawa, Canada, for the purchase of a runway friction tester in an amount not to exceed \$49,500.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Project Name:	ABIA Improvements
Project Authorization:	2003-04 Amended Capital Budget
Funding Source:	Airport Capital Fund
	Discretionary grants
	Entitlement grants
Fund/Agency/Orgn:	4910-817-3083

Current Appropriation	\$	105,907,000
Unencumbered Balance		27,947,227
Amount of this Action		<u>(49,500)</u>
Available Balance	\$	27,897,727

Use of Estimated Remaining Balance

Noise Mitigation and Flight Track Monitoring System	\$	14,093,807
Terminal Modifications		49,266
Taxiway A, K (J to L)		990
Balcony Etched Glass		48,900
Etched Glass, Engineering Support		12,374
Airfield Security Gates, Improvements		247,330
Field Maintenance Facility		69,911
Pavement Rehabilitation		191,176
Security System Improvements		256,400
Alternative Fuel (Propane) Facility		5,099
Parking Structure Rehabilitation		589,472
Emergency Dispatch Center at Ops Building		77,888
Public Parking Improvements		300,565
Pavement Maintenance		1,199,969
Terminal Improvements		456,793
National Guard		300,000
APPD CIP		81,015
DVISD Land		21
Baggage Screen		1,098,018
Terminal Leak Repairs		914,215

Roof Repairs Bldg 7350	218,787
ERS Perimeter Road Study	166,556
Runway Sweeper	39,472
Runway Friction Test Unit	140,500
AIPP Ped Bridge	16,100
Elevator & Escalator Improvements	1,251,250
Maynard Tract	117,724
Parent level	<u>5,954,129</u>

\$	27,897,727	\$	<u>27,897,727</u>
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Currently Unbudgeted/Unobligated

\$	<u>0</u>
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Finance: Barbara Gipe Date: 8-10-04