



**Purchasing Service Agreement
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 33
AGENDA DATE: Thu 08/18/2005
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SUBJECT: Authorize execution of a contract with CORNERSTONE SYSTEMS, INC., Irvine, CA for the purchase of disaster recovery equipment for Communications and Technology Management (CTM) Department in an amount not to exceed \$104,565.00.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Approved Operating Budget for Communications and Technology Management.

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

REQUESTING Purchasing	DIRECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT: for Financial and	AUTHORIZATION: <u>Vickie Schubert</u>
Administrative Services -	
Communications and	
Technology	
Management;	

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen T. Aden, Supervising Senior Buyer, 974-2021

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

PURCHASING: Sole Source

MBE / WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with the Chapter 2-9 of the City Code (Minority-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

This contract is for Disaster Recovery equipment and will offer the City of Austin services that will provide the capability of recovering from a disaster impacting the financial and APD applications on the mainframe. Disaster recovery capabilities for these systems are necessary because of the excessive length of time that would be required to rebuild a data center, as well as acquire the equipment for the systems. If a catastrophic event were to disable those systems in the City's Data Center at Waller Creek, City services would immediately suffer impacts possibly effecting public safety for the citizens of Austin. Financial systems (AFS2) would also be directly impacted until production operations could be restored. This purchase guarantees financial systems recovery within 18 hours of a catastrophic event.

The current contract with Northrup Grumman Technical Services (currently \$131,244 per year) expires August 31, 2005. The CTM staff has selected Cornerstone Systems as the new solution for disaster recovery. This alternative will allow the City to install a backup mainframe compatible system at the Combined Transportation, Emergency Communications Center (CTECC) facility that could be used during a disaster at Waller Creek. Cornerstone's proposed solution will cost the City a one time fee of \$104,565, thus saving the City \$26,679 the first year. If the City were to require disaster recovery for the mainframe a second year, the City would realize an additional \$131,244 in savings (the current annual amount being paid to Northrup Grumman for disaster recover services). An additional benefit of using



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the Cornerstone Systems alternative is that when the mainframe is retired, the Cornerstone zFrame system will be capable of running standard Intel based operating systems (i.e. Windows 2003, XP, Linux, etc) and could be used as a disaster recovery systems for other City of Austin servers.

The City currently has support from IBM, and requires the same support on its' disaster recovery system. Cornerstone Systems Inc. is the only certified IBM zSeries Premier Business Partner building and installing FLEX-ES based systems both commercially and to IBM's Partnerworld Program. Cornerstone Systems Inc. is the only vendor CTM may call to get support for this hardware. As this machine houses the City of Austin's financial system and serves as a backup system for the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system, it is critical to select a vendor that will provide technical support. This equipment must be installed and tested prior to August 31, 2005.