

Thursday, December 14, 2006

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Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION ITEM No. 38

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the United States General Services Administration 1122 Program with SMITH'S DETECTION, Danbury, CT, for the purchase of a hazardous materials identification system in an amount not to exceed \$62,320

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Austin Police Department Special Revenue Fund, Office of the Governor, Division of Emergency Management, 2005 Buffer Zone Protection Program Grant.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required

Additional Backup Material

(click to open)

No Attachments Available

For More Information: Sydney Ceder, Senior Buyer/974-2035

Purchasing Language: Cooperative Purchase

This contract is for the purchase of a hazardous material identification system manufactured by Smith's Detection. The ID system will be a joint-use instrument benefiting emergency operations of the Austin Police Department, Austin Fire Department, and Emergency Medical Services Department. The ID system will be used by the first-responders to identify unknown chemicals (liquid and powders) as well as biological samples that could pose a direct threat to the public. The system includes software, instrumentation, preparation kits, consumables, and training. The software contains an extensive library of known substances. As a portable unit, it can be carried into a contaminated environment where testing of a suspicious material can be completed. Once the substance is identified and the unit is decontaminated, it is ready for re-use. It is a sealed unit and can be decontaminated after each use. In addition to homeland defense scenarios and responding to hazmat calls, the equipment will be used during raids concerning various types of illegal drugs.

The General Services Administration (GSA) 1122 program is designed to provide law enforcement agencies with access to Federal contracts for the purchase of goods and services. Texas Local Government Code, Section 271 103, permits local governments to purchase goods and services available under Federal GSA supply schedules.