

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (CCO)

Austin City Council

Item ID:

54015

Agenda Number

9.

Meeting Date:

1/28/2016

Department:

Capital Contracting Office

Subject

Authorize negotiation of a professional services agreement with CDM SMITH, INC. (staff recommendation) or one of the other qualified responders to Request For Qualifications Solicitation No. CLMP179, to provide consulting services for the Integrated Water Resource Plan in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Capital Budget of Austin Water.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:

Staff recommendation is the most qualified firm out of three firms evaluated through the City's qualifications-based selection process.

Prior Council Action:

December 11, 2014 – Council passed related Resolution No. 20141211-119, which directed the City Manager to hire a consultant and created a Task Force to support the Integrated Water Resource Plan process.

For More Information:

Teresa Lutes, 512-972-0179; Rolando Fernandez, 512-974-7749; Sarah Torchin, 512-974-7141.

Boards and Commission Action:

January 5, 2016 - Recommended by the Austin Integrated Water Resource Planning Community Task Force. January 13, 2016 - Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

Related Items:

MBE / WBE:

This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9B Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program by meeting the goals with 15.80% MBE and 15.80% WBE participation.

Additional Backup Information

Austin Water serves a population of approximately 980,000 customers with water, wastewater, and reclaimed water services. Austin Water serves retail customers and wholesale customers, including Municipal Utility Districts, water control and improvement district, cities, and private companies. Austin Water's Impact Fee Service Area is approximately 544 square miles.

In addressing challenges posed by the drought, the City Council created the Austin Water Resource Planning Task Force (2014 Task Force) in April 2014 to evaluate the City's water needs, to examine and make recommendations regarding future water planning, and to evaluate potential water resource management scenarios for Council consideration. The 2014 Task Force presented a final report to Council in July 2014 with their recommendations.

One of the key recommendations of the 2014 Task Force was the development of an Integrated Water Resource Plan (Plan), including an independent Conservation Potential Assessment. In December 2014, to support the Plan development process, the City Council passed a resolution that created the 2015 Austin Integrated Water Resource Planning Community Task Force (2015 Task Force) and directed the City Manager to hire a consultant. The 2015 Task Force has been meeting monthly since May 2015 and has provided input on the plan development process and scope of work for the Integrated Water Resource Plan consultant.

The Plan will provide a mid- and long-term evaluation of and plan for water supply and demand management options for the City of Austin in a regional water supply context. Through public outreach and coordination of efforts between City departments and the 2015 Task Force, the Plan offers a holistic and inclusive approach to water resource planning. The Plan embraces an innovative and integrated water management process with the goal of ensuring a diversified, sustainable, and resilient water future, with a strong emphasis on water conservation.

The estimated project duration is 18 months after notice to proceed.

The following is a general list and is not inclusive of all anticipated services. A number of meetings with the Austin Water are anticipated to be necessary over the course of the project.

- Conduct public outreach and participation.
- Develop methodology for options evaluation.
- Evaluate and forecast disaggregated water demands.
- Conduct water conservation potential assessment.
- Incorporate impacts of climate change on water supply and demand.
- Evaluate water supply and diversification options.
- Score demand and supply side options.
- Develop and evaluate water supply and demand management portfolios.
- Conduct financial analysis and evaluation.
- Develop plan recommendations and a plan report.

The Capital Contracting Office and Austin Water staff worked closely with the 2015 Task Force to ensure their input was captured in the scope of work during the solicitation process. The 2015 Task Force requested an opportunity to review the negotiated scope of work and fee in the agreement prior to seeking City Council approval. In consideration of the request, this Request for Council Action allows for negotiation of an agreement with the qualified responder that Council selects. Upon successful negotiation of an agreement, the 2015 Task Force will review the negotiated scope and fee; following the review, staff will present a Recommendation for Council Action for the execution of the agreement in May 2016. If the City is unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory agreement with the selected responder, negotiations will cease with that provider. Staff will return to Council so that Council may select another qualified responder and authorize contract negotiations with that provider.

RECOMMENDED FIRM: CDM SMITH, INC.

ALTERNATE FIRM: CH2MHILL ENGINEERS, INC.

CDM Smith, Inc. is located in Austin, TX

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