

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: November 9, 2017

Item Number: 034

Purchasing Office

Authorize negotiation and execution of a multi-term contract with Bureau Veritas North America, Inc., to provide permit plan review services, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,900,000. (This solicitation was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9 C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the services required for this solicitation, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established.).

Lead Department	Purchasing Office.
Fiscal Note	Funding in the amount of \$280,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Operating Budget of the Development Services Department. Funding in the amount of \$100,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Operating Budget of Austin Water. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.
Purchasing Language	The Purchasing Office issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) MDD0101 for these services. The solicitation issued on January 2, 2017 and it closed on February 2, 2017. Of the three offers received, the recommended contractor submitted the best evaluated responsive offer. A complete solicitation package, including a response list, is available for viewing on the City's Financial Services website, Austin Finance Online. Link: Solicitation Documents < https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/vendor_connection/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=115627 >.
For More Information	Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov < mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov >

	NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall continue to direct inquiries to the solicitation's Authorized Contact Person: Matthew Duree, at 512-974- 6346 or Matt.Duree@austintexas.gov <mailto:Matt.Duree@austintexas.gov>.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action	August 19, 2017 - Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission on a 6-0 vote, with Commissioner Ho abstaining and Commissioners Blanding, Castleberry, Kellough and Maia absent.
Client Department(s)	Austin Water; Development Services Department.

Additional Backup Information:

The contract is for residential, commercial, and plumbing permit plan review services to address and mitigate plan review backlogs and achieve City targeted performance measures as required by the Development Services department and Austin Water.

In 2015, Zucker Systems performed an analysis of the performance of the Planning and Development Review department. The Zucker Report made the following recommendations: "Recommendation #100 - The existing backlog for commercial plan review needs to be eliminated through the use of outside plan review consultants"; and "Recommendation # 296 - The Department should hire qualified contract plan review staff to help eliminate plan review backlog and to provide relief for staff to concentrate on enhancing their code knowledge so they can expand the scope of their reviews."

Within the Development Services department, both residential and commercial plan review workgroups have a long-term target to complete 90% of plan reviews within City Code mandated review times. The Development Services department's previous plan review contract consisted of a single year contract for \$50,000, which started in March 2016 and ended in March 2017. The contract authorized services for residential and commercial plan reviews and inspections. However, because of the limited funding amount, it was later determined that residential production building permit application reviews should take priority.

The Development Services department will allocate the majority of their contract toward an improved Volume Builder Program, which allows production builder applications to be processed through a streamlined expedited process. The successful pilot program has been operating since July 2016 utilizing temporary staff reassignments. Full launch and continuation of the program is subject to contract implementation.

Austin Water currently performs site plan plumbing reviews for the City. Austin Water's site plan plumbing review services were not included in the previous contract. However, in Fiscal Year 2016-2017, Austin Water temporarily modified an existing employee's duties in order to reduce backlogs and improve the timeliness of reviews. To date, 94% of site plan plumbing reviews were completed on-time. Upon this contract being implemented, the temporarily assigned employee will return to their regular duties related to private wastewater lateral and on-site sewage facility investigations and inspections.

The requested authorization amount was based on estimates from the Development Services department and Austin Water.

An evaluation team with expertise in this area evaluated the offers and scored Bureau Veritas North America, Inc. as the best to provide these services based on system concept and solution, work plan and approach, project management/contract management, experience, personnel, cost, and local business presence.

If the City is unable to enter into a contract, the Development Services department will not be able to reduce their plan review backlog or move significantly closer to their targeted performance measure of 90% on-time reviews. Additionally, the Development Services department and Austin Water would continue to use temporarily assigned review staff and supervisors to assist with reviews.

Contract Detail

		<u>Contract Term</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>	<u>Contract Amendment</u>	<u>Revised Amount</u>
Initial Term		2	\$ 760,000	n/a	n/a
Extension Option 1		1	\$ 380,000	n/a	n/a
Extension Option 2		1	\$ 380,000	n/a	n/a
Extension Option 3		1	\$ 380,000	n/a	n/a
TOTAL	5		\$1,900,000	\$ -	\$ -

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