



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-1877, **Agenda Item #:** 56.

5/23/2019

Posting Language

Ratify a professional services agreement with Freese & Nichols, Inc. to provide engineering consulting services for the Shoal Creek Storm Drain emergency contract in an amount not to exceed \$268,357.00. Related to items #55, #57, and #60.

(Note: Emergency contracts are exempt from the City Code Chapter 2-9B Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

Lead Department

Capital Contracting Office

Managing Department(s)

Public Works Department

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Capital Budget of the Watershed Protection Department.

Purchasing Language:

This is an emergency contract that did not go through the City's qualification-based selection process.

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov.

NOTE: Direct inquiries to Rolando Fernandez, 512-974-7749, Beverly Mendez, 512-974-3596.

Additional Backup Information:

The slope failure (landslide) occurred on the west bluff overlooking Shoal Creek adjacent to the 2500 block of North Lamar Boulevard on May 4, 2018 after a severe weather event. There were no injuries reported. For additional background, please refer to the five memos sent between May 2018 and April 2019. The trail was cordoned off from 24th Street to Shoal Creek Boulevard. The backyards of several homes on Wooldridge Drive overlooking the bluff were visibly impacted. City of Austin parkland, approximately 300 feet of the hike and bike trail, a boulder wall, and a wastewater pipe were damaged along Shoal Creek. A large quantity of soil, rock, and debris from the slope failure was deposited in the creek. The slope is still unstable and at risk of further movement. The City is monitoring the slope and creek conveyance until a permanent solution is implemented. Staff has been following emergency contract and expedited procurement procedures to advance slope repair design solutions.

To minimize the risk of additional slope movement, the City contracted with Freese and Nichols, Inc. (FNI) for design and construction phase services for a storm drain system along Wooldridge Drive and Gaston Avenue. The new storm drain will prevent storm water from discharging onto the unstable slope. FNI has the appropriate experience and expertise to complete the design and has indicated they have the resources to

proceed immediately. FNI provides a wide range of stormwater-related services, including master planning, funding, stormwater pollution prevention plans, permitting, channel design, erosion control, compliance monitoring and water quality best management practices. The City has contracted with FNI in the past and received good value for the price paid. Due to their past experience FNI was determined to be the most qualified.

This emergency contract was executed in October 2018, prior to Council action. The property owners affected by the storm water line construction and traffic detours have been notified via letter and their neighborhood associations have been contacted. A meeting to introduce the contractor to the neighborhood will be scheduled before construction. Additionally, a public meeting was conducted by the Watershed Protection (WPD), Parks and Recreation (PARC), and Public Works (PWD) departments on July 19, 2018 at City Hall to provide an overview of the slope failure situation and answer questions. Another public meeting will be scheduled once more information is available on design and construction of a slope repair solution.

This project is located zip code 78703 (District 9).