



## Recommendation for Action

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**File #:** 19-1878, **Agenda Item #:** 57.

5/23/2019

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### **Posting Language**

Ratify a professional services agreement with Geostabilization International, LLC to provide engineering services for the Shoal Creek Emergency Landslide Repair in an amount not to exceed \$494,169.13. Related to items #55, #56, 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](mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov).

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

### **Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:**

To be reviewed by the Environmental Commission on June 5, 2019.

### **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 assist in the slope failure response efforts, the City contracted with GeoStabilization International, LLC

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(GSI) as engineers for the preliminary design phase of the slope repair project. GSI has stabilized hundreds of landslides throughout the country and their geotechnical and structural staff specialize in this area of engineering. Due to their past experience it was determined that GSI was the most qualified. GSI produced preliminary design solutions, conducted survey work, and performed geotechnical borings. The preliminary findings helped the City understand the slope failure event and the data will be used to inform a decision on how to proceed with final design and construction.

This emergency contract was executed in October 2018, prior to Council action. A public meeting was conducted by the Watershed Protection (WPD), Parks and Recreation (PARD), 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).