



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-3007, **Agenda Item #:** 42.

10/3/2019

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a multi-term contract with Austin Youth River Watch, to provide educational training and oversight of at-risk youth performing water quality monitoring, for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$952,500.

(Note: This procurement was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with the City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the services required for this procurement, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

Lead Department

Purchasing Office.

Client Department(s)

Watershed Protection Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$190,500 is available in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Operating Budget of the Watershed Protection Department. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Purchasing Language:

Professional Service.

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>> or to Leyla Mammadova, at 512-974-2938 or Leyla.Mammadova@austintexas.gov <<mailto:Leyla.Mammadova@austintexas.gov>>.

Additional Backup Information:

The contract is to provide water quality monitoring and training of at-risk students in the field of water quality. The students will collect data and perform environmental restoration work to improve water quality, public green spaces, and watershed health. Austin Youth River Watch (AYRW) is a non-profit service organization that combines environmental education with drop-out prevention for at-risk high school students. It is a multi-year, after-school and summer program that combines peer mentoring and intensive environmental education.

AYRW provides the equipment and training required for students to collect, analyze and publish water-quality data from Austin area streams and rivers. They report their data to local and state-wide agencies, which has been used by scientists, policymakers, and environmentalists to improve the management and protection of our local waterways. It also creates an early warning system that alerts the City and Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) to potential water quality threats. AYRW also works closely with the Watershed Protection Department (WPD) investigating the source of fecal bacteria contamination, as well as with the adoption of

specific areas for riparian restoration consistent with the water quality goals of WPD.

AYRW was established with initial funding provided by the City and continuing source of funding will include the City, governmental support, grants from private foundations, contributions from partnering corporations, and many donations from individuals. The value of this program was recognized specifically by Council Resolution 20140807-099.

The recommended contractor is the current provider for these services. This contract will replace the previous contract which expired on September 30, 2019. If the City is unable to secure a contract for these services, water quality in Austin area streams and rivers could be threatened and the early warning system that alerts the City and LCRA to potential water quality threats would be delayed.

Contract Detail:

<u>Contract Term</u>	<u>Length of Term</u>	<u>Contract Authorization</u>
Initial Term	1 yr.	\$190,500
Optional Extension 1	1 yr.	\$190,500
Optional Extension 2	1 yr.	\$190,500
Optional Extension 3	1 yr.	\$190,500
Optional Extension 4	1 yr.	\$190,500
TOTAL	5 yrs.	\$952,500

Note: Contract Authorization amounts are based on the City's estimated annual usage.