



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-1735, **Agenda Item #:** 9.

4/23/2020

Posting Language

Authorize award and execution of a construction contract with T Morales Company Electric & Controls, Ltd. (MBE), for the South Austin Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant Electrical Substation No. 1 Replacement project, in the amount of \$29,989,000 plus a \$2,998,900 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$32,987,900.

[Note: This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9A (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program by meeting the goals with 45.48% MBE and 25.87% WBE participation.]

Lead Department

Capital Contracting Office

Managing Department

Public Works Department

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Capital Budget of the Austin Water.

Purchasing Language:

Only one bid was received through a competitive Invitation for Bid solicitation.

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 direct inquiries to Rolando Fernandez, 512-974-7749, Garrett Cox, 512-974-9423, or the Project Manager, Gary P. Jackson, 512-974-7115.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission on Commissioner Moriarty's Motion and Vice-Chair Castleberry's 2nd on a 8-0-1-2 vote with Commissioner Penn recusing and Commissioners Parton and Schmitt absent.

Additional Backup Information:

The existing outdoor electrical main 15KV switchgear for the South Austin Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant has deteriorated and is in significant need of replacement. The existing 15KV switchgear serves as the primary power source for the Trains A and B facilities of the plant, as well as areas common to all the plant, such as Lift Station No. 1, Filter Building, Water Reuse, Dechlorination Building, and Administration Building. The chief contributing agent to the deterioration of the existing gear is the outdoor conditions, particularly the presence of high concentrations of corrosive gas within this location of the plant. The gear is outdated, and replacement electrical components are either difficult to procure or unavailable and thus creates an additional

maintenance and safety concern.

The purpose of this project is to construct a new 15KV switchgear and support infrastructure served by the existing deteriorated 15KV switchgear. A new building will be constructed to house the new 15KV switchgear and associated electronics. The new building will maintain a suitable condition and quality of air for the new 15KV switchgear and its ancillary electronic equipment, thereby avoiding a re-occurrence of the corrosion issues encountered with the existing gear.

This item includes two allowances. The allowance of \$200,000 will be used to address inclusion of current City security systems identified for process plant systems and the allowance of \$680,000 will be used to accommodate changes to Austin Energy service connections to this site. An allowance is an amount that is specified and included in the construction contract or specifications for a certain item(s) of work whose details are not yet determined at the time of bidding.

The site for this work is entirely on plant property which is not accessible to the public. The project team has designed this project to minimize the potential of process outages or service impacts.

Failure to construct this project in a timely manner may result in unplanned equipment and/or electrical failures, which could directly affect the plant's ability to treat wastewater. It would also prolong safety concerns with the existing equipment.

Due to the potential for unforeseen conditions in the power distribution part of the project through the site, a 10% contingency in funding has been included to allow for the expeditious processing of any change orders. A contingency is an additional amount of money added to the construction budget to cover any unforeseen construction costs associated with the project.

Five primes attended the pre-bid meeting for this solicitation. The Capital Contracting Office reached out to all primes that attended the pre-bid and chose not to bid. The feedback received from the primes was that they chose not to bid due to change in company ownership, size of the project, and scope of work being electrical.

The contract allows 1200 calendar days for completion of this project. This project is located within zip code 78617 (District 2).

T Morales Company Electric & Controls Ltd (MBE/FH) is located in Florence, TX 76527-0859.

Information on this solicitation is available through the City's Austin Finance Online website. Link: [Solicitation Documents <https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=129815>](https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=129815).

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment; Safety.