



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-2033, **Agenda Item #:** 3.

6/4/2020

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with Toole Design Group, LLC, (staff recommendation) or one of the other qualified responders for Request for Qualifications Solicitation No. CLMP296, to provide engineering services for the Urban Trails Plan and Sidewalks/ADA Transition Plan Updates project in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.

[Note: This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9B (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 32.90% MBE and 15.80% WBE participation.]

Lead Department

Capital Contracting Office

Managing Department

Public Works Department

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$1,000,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Capital and/or Operating and Maintenance Budget of the Public Works Department.

Purchasing Language:

Staff recommendation is the most qualified firm out of three firms evaluated 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: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall direct inquiries to Rolando Fernandez, 512-974-7749, Beverly Mendez, 512-974-3596, or the Project Manager, Craig McColloch, 512-974-2968.

Additional Backup Information:

In 2019, the City of Austin adopted the Austin Strategic Mobility Plan (ASMP). This plan sets forth a citywide goal of achieving a 50/50 mode split by 2039. The ASMP recognizes both the Urban Trails and Sidewalk Networks as vital components of the transportation network necessary to meet this goal.

The Public Works Department manages the Urban Trails and Sidewalks/ADA Transition programs. These programs work to promote and construct accessible, all-ages and-abilities pathways for recreation and active transportation throughout the City and safe connections to adjacent sidewalk, bicycle and transit networks. The 2014 Urban Trails Plan identified 47 miles of Tier 1, high priority, trails and 360 miles of Tier 2 trails. Trails considered Tier 1 provide a strong potential for both transportation and recreational use, serve significant surrounding populations, enhance connections to the on-street bicycle and sidewalk network, and are sensitive

to the environmental context. Tier 2 trails, while still an integral part of the overall network, were found to be less of a priority based on these same factors.

The City of Austin 2016 Sidewalk/ADA Transition Plan establishes asset management policies for sidewalks within City of Austin right-of-way. The goals of the Sidewalk Program are to encourage walking as a viable mode of transportation, improve pedestrian safety, and enable people to walk to and from transit stops; improve mobility and access for people with disabilities; help control air pollution and traffic congestion; and include sidewalks and other pedestrian facilities as necessary and integral components of the transportation system.

The purpose of the requested action is to provide updated plans for the Urban Trails and Sidewalks/ADA Transition programs consistent with the ASMP.

The Urban Trails Plan was originally adopted in 2014. The purpose of this update is to update internal policies and to re-examine the proposed trail network. Through the update process, potential new trail alignments or connections should be identified, and existing trail alignments will be re-evaluated based on equity, feasibility, changes in floodplain regulations, network demand, micro-mobility, and other relevant criteria. Additionally, new strategies to sustainably maintain the trail network and engage users will be addressed.

The Sidewalks/ADA Transition Plan update purpose is to develop a comprehensive sidewalk network buildout plan that supports a complete transit/pedestrian transportation network; provide a transparent web based interactive map of the data and criteria used in the selection of sidewalk improvement projects; and to undertake a policy and business process review and provide recommendations to support an integrated asset management approach to sidewalk/pedestrian infrastructure.

This authorization provides for funding of the above listed services. This request allows for the development of an agreement with the qualified responder that Council awards. If the City is unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory agreement with the awarded responder, negotiations will cease with that provider. Staff will return to Council so that Council may award another qualified responder and authorize contract negotiations with that provider.

TOP RANKED FIRM: Toole Design Group, LLC is located in Silver Spring, MD

SECOND RANKED FIRM: Halff Associates, Inc., is located in Austin, TX

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=134153>](https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=134153)

Strategic Outcome(s):

Mobility