



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-2320, **Agenda Item #:** 44.

6/11/2020

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Jane's Due Process, to provide logistical support services for abortion access, for a term of one year for a total contract amount not to exceed \$150,000.

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

Lead Department

Purchasing Office.

Client Department(s)

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Operating Budget of Austin Public Health.

Purchasing Language:

The Purchasing Office issued a Request for Applications RFQS 4700 SMW4000 for these services. The solicitation issued on April 27, 2020 and it closed on May 19, 2020. Of the two applications received, the recommended contractor submitted the best evaluated responsive application. A complete solicitation package, including a log of offers received, is available for viewing on the City's Financial Services website, Austin Finance Online. Link: [Sollicitation Documents](https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=134436)
<https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=134436>.

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 Shawn Willett, at 512-974-2021 or shawn.willett@austintexas.gov <<mailto:shawn.willett@austintexas.gov>>.

Additional Backup Information:

The contract is for logistical support services for Austin residents seeking access to abortion care. Austin City Council has a history of boldly supporting reproductive rights. In 2017, Council passed the "Abortion is Healthcare" resolution (Resolution No. [20170126-045](http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=270659) <<http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=270659>>), affirming that a woman's right to make the decision to access safe, legal, and affordable abortion is an essential component to healthcare. In 2018, Council passed "Rosie's Resolution" (Resolution No. [20181004-035](http://austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=307312) <<http://austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=307312>>) which formally recognized the importance of access to affordable abortion care and called for a repeal of bans on insurance coverage for abortion. In June 2019, in response to the state of Alabama issuing a statewide ban on abortion services, Council approved a resolution requesting the City Manager to determine an appropriate response and stating its opposition to statewide abortion services bans ([Resolution No. 20190606-100](http://austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=20190606-100)

<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=320260>). The City's Commission for Women unanimously passed a resolution on August 14, 2019 (Recommendation [20190814-03a03](https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=325612) <http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=325612>) requesting \$150,000 to support abortion access in Austin, and a budget amendment from Mayor Pro Tem Garza was included in the approved Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget to support this effort.

Examples of services which may be provided include:

- Logistical support to access abortion services. Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - Transportation to and from abortion clinics
 - Hotel accommodations for overnight stays necessary for abortion procedures
 - Childcare support or reimbursements
 - Translation and interpretation for clients whose first language is not English while navigating abortion access information and accessing services
- Basic needs support to ensure a client's safety and health. Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - Grocery items such as healthy prepared meals
 - Food staples and basic household items
 - Feminine and sanitary hygiene products
- Post-abortion support. Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - Case management services
 - Counseling services
 - Access to healthcare such as navigating health coverage options and connecting with healthcare providers

An evaluation team with expertise in this area evaluated the applications and scored Jane's Due Process as the best to provide these services based on program description, client eligibility, data management, program performance, alignment with Austin Public Health priorities, program staffing and time, program budget and funding, cost effectiveness, and healthy service delivery.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Government that Works for All; Health and Environment.