



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-2699, **Agenda Item #:** 65.

8/27/2020

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Remotec Inc., for Power Hawk Assembly remote devices, in an amount not to exceed \$71,644.

(Note: Sole source contracts are exempt from City Code Chapter 2-9D Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

Lead Department

Purchasing Office.

Client Department(s)

Austin Police Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget of the State of Texas, Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, Justice Assistance Grant Program, Special Operations Explosive Ordinance Device Project. A match is not required.

Purchasing Language:

Sole Source.

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 Bridney Stewart, at 512-974-3127 or Bridney.Stewart@austintexas.gov <<mailto:Bridney.Stewart@austintexas.gov>>.

Additional Backup Information:

The contract is for the purchase of two Power Hawk Assembly remote devices designed for the exclusive use with the Andros FX explosive disposal unmanned robotic vehicles used by the Austin Police Department (APD) Bomb Squad. This tool enhances the ability to remotely disable and dispose of suspicious objects, explosive devices, and other dangerous threats from a safe distance. APD, through Homeland Security grants, has invested approximately \$1,000,000 in the purchase of tools, parts, accessories, and training courses associated with the Andros platform over the last 18 years.

Due to the amount of funds and training invested in this platform, APD wishes to continue utilizing the Andros platform, which will continue to provide the APD Bomb Squad unit with improved capabilities, enhanced technology, and a prolonged service life.

Remotec Inc. is the sole manufacturer and distributor in the United States for this line of hazardous duty robot

vehicles and all related upgrades, accessories, parts, refurbishments, and services. Their Andros systems have a unique, articulated, patented track design, therefore, other manufacturers are unable to offer the same design.

If the City is unable to secure a contract the effectiveness of the Bomb Squad may be hindered.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Safety.