



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-2044, Agenda Item #: 19.

6/16/2022

Posting Language

Authorize award and execution of a construction contract with Excel Construction Services, LLC, for the Zebra Mussel Mitigation project in the amount of \$4,435,204 plus a \$443,520.40 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$4,878,724.40.

[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 2.45% MBE and 2.54% WBE participation.]

Lead Department

Financial Services Department

Managing Department

Public Works Department

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Capital Budget of Austin Water.

Purchasing Language:

Lowest responsive bid of three bids received through a competitive Invitation for Bid solicitation.

For More Information:

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, Minda Sarmiento, 512-974-5645.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission on June 8, 2022.

Additional Backup Information:

In 2017, Texas Parks and Wildlife discovered zebra mussels at several locations in Lake Austin. Since then, growth of zebra mussels on the raw water intake infrastructure has been confirmed at the Davis Water Treatment Plant (WTP), the Handcox WTP, and the Ullrich WTP. Adult zebra mussels attach to submerged piping or mechanical equipment and can cause significant damage by clogging small valves and pipelines, reducing hydraulic capacity of pipelines, and causing pumps to fail. Currently, Austin Water has a chemical treatment system in operation which adds copper sulfate, a molluscicide, to the raw water to remove and prevent future growth of zebra mussels. This project will replace the chemical feed system with a copper ion generation (CIG) system. CIG is an electrolysis process that produces copper ions without the need of a chemical storage and feed system. This system allows copper to be applied to the raw water at the raw water pumps, providing protection to additional treatment infrastructure and preventing growth inside pipes and other equipment that divers cannot reach.

This project will install CIG systems at each of the Low Service Pump Stations for the Handcox, Ullrich, and

Davis WTPs. Work includes all related piping, valves, supports, instrumentation and controls, electrical wiring, equipment, and appurtenances necessary to provide a fully operational system. Once the CIG system is operating, the current copper sulfate chemical feed system will be decommissioned.

This item includes one allowance of \$20,000 which will be used to address Factory Acceptance Testing. 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.

Due to the potential for unforeseen subsurface conditions and challenges associated with the integration of new equipment with pre-existing water treatment infrastructure, 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. By authorizing the additional contingency funding, Council is authorizing any change orders within the contingency amount.

All work will be conducted on City property that is not open to the public. No interruptions to Austin Water operations are anticipated as a result of this project.

A delay in approval of this contract will result in continued damage to valves and pipelines, reduced hydraulic capacity of pipelines, and failure of pumps as a result of the zebra mussel infestation.

The contract allows 334 calendar days for completion of this project. This project is located within zip codes 78746, 78731, and 78732 (Districts 8 and 10).

Excel Construction Services, LLC is located in Leander, TX.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Safety