SUBJECT: Authorize execution of a contract with WABASH NATIONAL TRAILER CENTERS, San Antonio, TX, for the purchase of a frame-type semi-trailer for the Austin Water Utility in an amount not to exceed $97,664.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding is included in the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Capital Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

FISCAL NOTE: A fiscal note is attached.

REQUESTING DEPARTMENT: Purchasing; AUTHORIZATION: Vickie Schubert

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Mick Osborne, Senior Buyer/974-2995

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

PURCHASING: Only bid received.

MBE / WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9 of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

This contract is for the purchase of one replacement frame-type custom built aluminum tandem hydraulic dump semi-trailer to be used by the Water Division of the Austin Water Utility to haul water treatment sludge. This trailer carries a lime slurry bi-product that is produced from fresh water filter treatment processes. The trailer is watertight and made of aluminum in order to reduce the trailer weight to carry more sludge with each trip to the dumpsite. The trailer is pulled beneath the hopper and the liquid sludge is transferred into the trailer and then hauled to the disposal site. This material must be hauled away from the water treatment plants to a pit for disposal since there are no known uses for this sludge material. The disposal site is owned by the City and is located at 5006 Shaw Lane. It is registered with the TCEQ for the disposal of water treatment plant sludge only. The City has a dumping permit from the State of Texas, General Services Commission.

This trailer will replace an existing trailer that was placed in service in 1985. The trailer meets the Fleet Officer's eligibility criteria for replacement. The Fleet Service Center manager has inspected the equipment to be replaced and determined that the mileage or hours of use of this equipment proposed for replacement cannot be increased without risking a significant increase in repair costs and loss of productivity due to down time.

Currently, there are two other trailer manufacturers that build trailers of this size, but neither company is able to construct the water tight rear hatch that prevents leakage while in transport or construct a trailer that has low enough sides to allow clearance underneath the hopper at the treatment plant where the sludge is stored.
Purchasing Contract
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

MBE/WBE solicited: 0/0

BID TABULATION
IFB # MO05100108
Aluminum Semi-trailer, Tandem Hydraulic Dump, 25-28 Cubic Yard

VENDOR
Wabash National Trailer Centers
San Antonio, TX

TOTAL PRICE
$97,664

PRICE ANALYSIS
a. Only bidder. The last two times this item was purchased, a single bid was received from this trailer manufacturer. This is currently the only known trailer manufacturer that is capable of building this type of trailer equipped with a water tight rear hatch and with sides low enough to drive beneath the sludge hopper that stores this material.
b. Fifty-one notices were sent. There are no known MBE/WBEs available for this commodity. Three bids were issued. One bid was received.
c. The current pricing represents an approximate 28% increase from the last contract awarded May 2002. This can be attributed to the sharp increase in the price of steel.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION
a. Only bidder.
b. Austin Water Utility concurs with the recommended award.
c. Advertised in the Austin American-Statesman and Internet.
DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION: 07/28/05
WHERE ON AGENDA: Resolution
DEPARTMENT: Austin Water Utility

DESCRIPTION:
Authorize execution of a contract with WABASH NATIONAL TRAILER CENTERS, San Antonio, TX, for the purchase of a frame-type semi-trailer for the Austin Water Utility in an amount not to exceed $97,664.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Parent Project Name: Capital Equipment
Project Authorization: 2004-05 Approved Capital Budget
Funding Source: Contractual Obligation
Number: 4180 227 1023

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Utility Finance: __________________________ Date: 7/7/05

David Anders, Utilities Finance Manager

REF. # 4180 227 8004
DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION: 07/28/05
WHERE ON AGENDA: Resolution
DEPARTMENT: Austin Water Utility

DESCRIPTION:
Authorize execution of a contract with WABASH NATIONAL TRAILER CENTERS, San Antonio, TX, for the purchase of a frame-type semi-trailer for the Austin Water Utility in an amount not to exceed $97,664.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

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Utility Finance: David Andert, Utilities Finance Manager
Date: 7/7/05