

**CITY OF AUSTIN – PURCHASING OFFICE
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

AGENDA DATE: 1/27/2011

SUBJECT: Authorize award, negotiation, and execution of a contract with LIGHTHOUSE SOLAR, Austin, TX, for the design and installation of solar photovoltaic systems in an estimated amount not to exceed \$459,190.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding in the amount of \$298,665 is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Operating Budget of Austin Energy; \$160,525 is available from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 for the grant period of December 28, 2009 to December 27, 2012.

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Shawn Harris, Supervising Sr. Buyer/505-7351

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: May 13, 2010 - Approved acceptance of \$450,000 grant from DOE amending the budget; Approved interlocal with AISD. August 19, 2010 - Approved equipment purchase.

BOARDS AND COMMISSION ACTION: To be reviewed by the Resource Management Commission on January 18, 2011 and the Electric Utility Commission on January 24, 2011.

PURCHASING LANGUAGE: Single responsive proposal of three proposals received.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9C of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 24.0% MBE and 1.90% WBE Subcontractor Participation.

This contract is for purchase and installation services for 15 Solar Outdoor Learning Centers at fifteen schools within Austin Independent School District (AISD) as part of Austin Energy's (AE) solar Curriculum Development and Demonstration Projects Grant. Installation of this equipment is expected to be completed within 300 calendar days of award of contract. Schools receiving the installations are: Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders, Burnet Middle School, Covington Middle School, Pleasant Hill Elementary, Lamar Middle School, Mendez Middle School, Paredes Middle School, Pearce Middle School, Akins High School, Bowie High School, Crockett High School, McCallum High School, Eastside Memorial, Reagan High School, and Travis High School. Separate solicitations have secured the purchase of photovoltaic modules and micro-inverters for this project.

The Austin Energy Solar for Schools Program previously installed solar projects at the schools listed below.

Austin Independent School District:

Webb Middle School
Lyndon B. Johnson High School
Rodriguez Elementary School
Maplewood Elementary School
Brykerwoods Elementary School
Kealing Middle School
Bedichek Middle School
Blanton Elementary School
Cunningham Elementary
Garza Independence High School
Martin Middle School
Murchison Middle School
O. Henry Middle School
Davis Elementary School
Zilker Elementary School
Clint Small Middle School
Garcia (Gustavo L.) Middle School

Round Rock Independent School District:

Pond Springs Elementary
Westwood High School

Lake Travis Independent School District:

Lake Travis High School
Lake Travis Elementary School

Pflugerville Independent School District:

Dessau Elementary School
Parmer Lane Elementary School

Eanes Independent School District:

Valley View Elementary

Leander Independent School District:

Canyon Ridge Middle School
River Place Elementary School

Del Valley Independent School District:

Del Valley Middle School
Ojeda Junior High School

Manor Independent School District:

Decker Middle School
Oak Meadows Elementary School

In addition, two campuses in the Austin Community College (ACC) system received installations: the Riverside Campus and the Rio Grande Campus.

The combined energy production from the already installed systems is an estimated 138,000 kWh per year.

Through the Solar Curriculum Development and Demonstration Projects Grant, AE shares a joint mission with the DOE to maximize energy efficiency while protecting the environment, and to promote community education and outreach. The project's objectives are to expand the number of AISD campuses that have solar photovoltaic installations, continue to educate students, teachers and community stakeholders about the benefits of clean energy using the solar installations as a tool for learning, and incorporating the use of the solar photovoltaic installations into the K-12 Solar Energy Curriculum. The project carries out part of AE's 2003 Strategic Plan in promoting energy conservation through the use of alternative energy sources and generating Renewable Energy Credits. The plan calls for AE to implement a highly visible public awareness and education program that will involve the installation of PV projects at schools, branch libraries, and community centers.

This contract will allow for installations at 15 schools, and a total 57.6 kW of installed capacity is expected. The energy generated will offset an estimated 74,800 kWh per year and produce an estimated 74 renewable energy credits per year. These savings are equivalent to an estimated 86,570 vehicle miles traveled, the removal of 10 cars from our roadways, or the planting of 1,632

trees or 82 acres of forest in Austin's parks.

An Austin Energy team with expertise in this area evaluated the proposals and chose this proposal as the best. The criteria evaluated included project concept and solutions proposed, demonstrated applicable experience of company and personnel, evidence of good organizational and management experience and total evaluated cost.

MBE/WBE solicited: 3/2 MBE/WBE bid: 0/0

PROPOSAL ANALYSIS

- a. Adequate competition.
- b. One hundred and twenty-one notices were sent, including five MBEs and one WBE. Three proposals were received, including one MBE.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Best evaluated proposal received.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with Austin Energy's recommended award.
- c. Advertised on the Internet.