

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action (CMD)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	22775	Agenda Number	10.
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Meeting Date:	March 21, 2013
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Department:	Contract Management
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Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with CLARION ASSOC OF COLORADO LLC dba CLARION ASSOCIATES, or one of the other qualified responders to Comprehensive Land Development Code Revision for the City of Austin Solicitation No. CLMP122, to provide professional land development revision planning and engineering services in an amount not to exceed \$ 2,000,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Capital Budget of the Planning and Development Review Department.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	Staff recommendation is the most qualified firm out of three firms evaluated through the City's qualification-based selection process.
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Prior Council Action:	June 14, 2012 - Council unanimously adopted the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan.
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For More Information:	Mark Walters 974-7695; Rolando Fernandez 974-7749; April Shaw 974-7141.
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Boards and Commission Action:	
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Related Items:	
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MBE / WBE:	This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9B of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 18.80% MBE and 15.80% WBE subcontractor participation.
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Additional Backup Information

At the June 14, 2012 Council meeting, the Austin City Council unanimously adopted the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan.

To facilitate implementation of the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, the majority of the plan's actions are organized into eight Priority Programs:

Priority Program #1: Invest in a compact and connected Austin

Priority Program #2: Sustainably manage our water resources

Priority Program #3: Continue to grow Austin's economy by investing in our workforce, education systems, entrepreneurs, and local businesses

Priority Program #4: Use green infrastructure to protect environmentally sensitive areas and integrate nature into the city

Priority Program #5: Grow and invest in Austin's creative economy

Priority Program #6: Develop and maintain household affordability throughout Austin

Priority Program #7: Create a Healthy Austin Program

Priority Program #8: Revise Austin's development regulations and processes to promote a compact and connected city

Imagine Austin and Austin's Land Development Code. As is common practice following the adoption of a new comprehensive plan, Priority Program # 8 recognizes the need to revise the Code to bring Austin's land development regulations into alignment with the new plan's direction. The need for a code revision is further underscored by the Austin City Charter (as amended in the mid-1980s) which requires all development regulations to be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. While Priority Program #8 is a best practice, it is also a reflection of community sentiment expressed during the planning process. More than 30 of the plan's policies and more than 40 of its actions relate to revising the Code and were generated through extensive public involvement. During the process to create and shape the actions, there was considerable discussion regarding the current Code and its provisions impeding the urban form envisioned by the Plan. Priority Program # 8 has six goals:

- Promote a compact and connected city that welcomes Austin's diverse households
- Preserve the character of different neighborhoods and parts of the city
- Promote affordability for Austinites at every stage of life and income level
- Integrate nature into the city and protect environmentally sensitive areas
- Ensure the delivery of efficient services
- Provide clear guidance in a user-friendly format

On November 1, 2012, staff presented the proposed process to revise Austin's Land Development Code to City Council. The Land Development Code revision process will consist of four steps:

Step 1: Listening to the Community, Education and Issue Identification

Step 2: Code Diagnosis and Draft Code Outline

Step 3: Draft Code Development, and

Step 4: Code Adoption

This authorization provides for funding of services related to Professional Land Development Revision Planning and Engineering Services. This request allows for the development of an agreement with staff's recommended firm, or any other qualified responder that Council selects. If the City is unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory agreement with the selected responder, negotiations will cease with that provider. Staff will return to Council so that Council may select another qualified responder and authorize contract negotiations with this provider.

Participation subgoals stated in the solicitation were 1.90% African American; 9.00% Hispanic; 4.90% Native/Asian; 15.80% WBE. The recommended firm and alternate firms provided MBE /WBE Compliance Plans that met the goals of the solicitation and were approved by the Small and Minority Business Resources Department.

Notification of issuance of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the subject services was sent to 2464 firms on November 8, 2012. The RFQ was obtained by 103 firms and 3 firms submitted qualification statements. None of the firms were certified MBE /WBE firms.

The City's qualifications-based selection process consists of two phases: 1) staff evaluation of written statements of qualifications for consultant teams, and; 2) staff interviews of short-listed consultant teams. In addition, in recent years, the City Council has requested presentations from short-listed consultant teams for similar types of projects (East Riverside Corridor Plan, Airport Blvd. Form-Based Code, Imagine Austin) and staff has included this step for the Land Development Code Revision project.

In the staff evaluation of written statements of qualifications, Clarion Associates was ranked first with Opticos Design ranked second. For the interview phase, Opticos Design was ranked first and Clarion Associates was ranked second. The final composite ranking is as follows:

RECOMMENDED FIRM: CLARION ASSOC OF COLORADO LLC dba CLARION ASSOCIATES.

ALTERNATE FIRM: OPTICOS DESIGN INCORPORATED

Clarion Associates is located in Denver, Colorado.

Opticos Design Incorporated is located in Berkeley, California