

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	29154	Agenda Number	57.
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Meeting Date:	December 12, 2013
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Department:	Purchasing
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Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with RICHARD HOFFPAUIR CONSULTING, for water rights and water supply related hydrological analyses in the Colorado River basin and associated basins for the Austin Water Utility in an amount of \$55,000, with four 12-month extension options in an amount not to exceed \$55,000 per extension option, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$275,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$55,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Operating Budget of Austin Water. Funding for the extension options is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	Professional Services
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Prior Council Action:	
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For More Information:	Steve Aden, Purchasing Manager - Corporate, 512-972-4040
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Boards and Commission Action:	November 13, 2013 - Unanimously approved by the Water and Wastewater Commission on a 6-0 vote.
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Related Items:	
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MBE / WBE:	This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9C (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this contract.
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Additional Backup Information

Richard Hoffpauir Consulting (RHC) will work closely with staff from the Austin Water Utility and the City Law Department on such water rights, water supply and hydrology related matters often of a confidential nature to help ensure that the City of Austin (COA) has adequate water supply into the future. Richard Hoffpauir Consulting is presently working on several key ongoing water rights related hydrology items for the COA including:

- LCRA's pending 2012 Water Management Plan (WMP) revision at Texas Commission on Environmental Water Quality (TCEQ);
- RHC has provided and continues to provide key technical expertise and hydrologic modeling in support of the City's pending joint application (with the LCRA) for indirect reuse water at TCEQ which involves ensuring that the City's water rights and water supply are adequately protected;
- Additional ongoing COA water rights applications that are either pending on file at TCEQ or are close to submittal which RHC has provided the technical support for.

Richard Hoffpauir, P.E. possesses a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University, and is a professional engineer and hydrologist specializing in water resources. With over 8 years of consulting for the City on these matters, RHC has detailed knowledge of COA water rights and COA long-term water supply planning and water availability modeling. RHC has provided essential support as a subject matter expert for the City's legal team in negotiations of critical high-profile matters such as LCRA's Water Management Plan 2012 revisions and the 2007 Settlement Agreement with LCRA, among other matters.

Dr. Hoffpauir is considered an expert in this area and is also well regarded by others in regional water planning, water rights, and hydrology. Additionally, in 2007 the City of Austin contracted with RHC to conduct a water reuse impact study of the Colorado River downstream of the City of Austin.

Pending authorization, RHC would: assist the City with LCRA Water Management Plan (WMP) Revision related issues; assist with Joint Application for Reuse water related matters; assist staff in support of Region K Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) matters; assist with other matters related to water right applications or amendments; assist City staff with other matters related to the existing WMP; assist City staff with Senate Bill 3 (Environmental Flows) issues; assist City staff in understanding the impact to the City of proposed development by LCRA of additional water supply strategies; and assist staff with other water supply issues that may develop.

Based on our knowledge of firms doing similar work, staff has determined that RHC is the best qualified firm and the most cost competitive firm that makes RHC the best value for the City. RHC has demonstrated competence based on past performance, and is the recommended firm. Richard Hoffpauir Consulting (RHC) is located Texas and has an office in College Station, Texas.

The project is managed by the Austin Water Utility.