

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	33405	Agenda Number	46.
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Meeting Date:	June 12, 2014
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Department:	Purchasing
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Subject

Authorize award and execution of a 36-month requirements service and supply agreement with FARRWEST ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPLY, INC., to provide gas monitoring equipment and related services in an amount not to exceed \$120,000, with three 12-month extension options in an estimated amount not to exceed \$15,000 per extension option, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$165,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$10,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Operating Budget of the Austin Fire Department. Funding for the remaining 33 months of the original contract period and 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:	Sole Source.
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Prior Council Action:	
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For More Information:	Erin D'Vincent, Senior Buyer, 512-972-4017
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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 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 solicitation.
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Additional Backup Information

This contract will provide the Austin Fire Department (AFD) with a constant supply of gas monitoring equipment to be used to detect, locate, quantify, identify, and mitigate any hazardous materials incidents including chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosives. AFD currently maintains an inventory of RAE System monitoring equipment which requires an authorized distribution outlet and certified repair services. FarrWest Environmental Supply is the only authorized distributor and repair center in Central Texas that can provide RAE System equipment, training, demonstrations, and 24/7 technical support with RAE System authorized personnel. Without properly calibrated and up to date monitoring equipment, AFD could not respond to or mitigate hundreds of hazardous condition and materials incidents annually.

AFD has been using RAE equipment since 1999. AFD, along with its regional partners have chosen to use RAE equipment for several important reasons. First, rigorous research, testing, and practical evaluations were completed by the Hazardous Material Teams in the region (Austin, Travis, Hays and Williamson Counties). RAE equipment was selected to be the regionally recognized standard. This decision included input from local, state, and federal partner agencies including the APD Bomb Squad, 6th National Guard Civil Support Team, TCEQ, and the FBI. Standardization of equipment and training is critical with the joint agency/regional mutual aid response model.

AFD has invested a significant amount of money in the required accessory equipment to test and maintain RAE equipment. This includes calibration stations, demand flow regulators, calibration gases and spare parts. Additionally, AFD has trained in conjunction with FarrWest Environmental Supply approximately 125 AFD personnel to operate the latest generation of RAE equipment and will train all remaining AFD operations members over the next few months. This will bring the total to over 900 trained AFD personnel. RAE instruments are currently on 13 fire apparatus and will increase to 21 in approximately the next 30 days.