

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	38985	Agenda Number	14.
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Meeting Date:	January 29, 2015
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Department:	Purchasing
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Subject

Authorize award and execution of a 36-month service contract with MERIT SERVICE SOLUTIONS, LP, or one of the other qualified bidders for IFB-BV No. PAX0052, to provide landscaping services for City Hall, in an amount not to exceed \$238,863, with three 12-month extension options in an amount not to exceed \$79,621 per extension option, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$477,726.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$53,080 is available in the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Operating Budget of the Building Services Department. Funding for the remaining 28 months of the original contract period and extension options are contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Fiscal Note

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

Purchasing Language:	Best evaluated bid received.
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Prior Council Action:	
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For More Information:	Sai Purcell, Senior Buyer Specialist, 512-972-4016
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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 landscaping services at City Hall. Services provided will be native landscape maintenance, removal of invasive non-native plants, tree trimming, shrub maintenance, pest control, mulching, fertilization, and irrigation/sprinkler system inspection and repair. The existing contract expires on February 17, 2015.

City Hall is a U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Gold-certified site, based in part on the maintenance of the site's native landscaping through a landscaping management plan. This site was also declared a Certified Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation. The landscaping contract for City Hall was advertised and evaluated on a "best value" rather than "low bid" basis to ensure that the contract was awarded to a company with professional knowledge of native plants, expertise with maintaining native landscaping, and an inventory of and experience with the use of non-gasoline powered landscaping equipment.

All landscape areas at City Hall will receive monthly maintenance visits from the contractor. Allowances have been included in the contract amount for irrigation system repairs, arborist work, and the replacement of diseased or stressed plants.

This request allows for the execution of a contract with a bidder, who provides the best value to the City that Council selects. If this bidder does not execute a contract with the City, staff will return to Council so that Council may select another best value bidder and authorize a contract with this bidder.

MBE /WBE solicited: 25/14

MBE /WBE bid: 0/0

BID TABULATION
IFB-BV PAX0052REBID
City Hall Landscaping Services
15 Line Items

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
Merit Service Solutions, LP. fka Sunterra Landscape Services, LP. Austin, TX	\$79,621
Greater Texas Landscapes, Inc. Austin, TX	\$75,237
Biogardener, LLC. City of Industry, CA	\$98,160

A complete bid tabulation is on file in the Purchasing Office and on the City's, FSD Purchasing website.

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Adequate Competition.
- b. 318 notices were sent including 25 MBEs and 14 WBEs. Three bids were received with no response from the MBEs/WBEs. The pricing offered represents a 107% decrease in the monthly service fee, 60% decrease in the initial clean up fee, 33% decrease for the Arborist hourly rate, and 23% decrease from the irrigation repairs service hourly rate from the last contract awarded in October, 2008.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Best evaluated bid.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with the Building Services Department's recommended award.
- c. Advertised in the Austin American Statesman and on the Internet.