

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (CMD)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	43573	Agenda Number	7.
---------------------	----------	-------	---------------	----

Meeting Date: April 23, 2015

Department: Contract Management

Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with the following three staff recommended firms (or one of the other qualified responders) to Request for Qualification Solicitation No. CLMP173: HDR ENGINEERING, INC., CH2M HILL ENGINEERS, INC., and ESPEY CONSULTANTS, INC. dba RPS for the 2015 Stream Restoration and Stormwater Treatment Engineering Services Rotation List for an estimated period of five years or until financial authorization is expended, for a total amount not to exceed \$6,000,000 divided among the three firms.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Operating Budget of the Watershed Protection Department.

Fiscal Note

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

Purchasing Language: Staff recommendations are the most qualified firms out of 15 firms evaluated through the City's Qualifications-Based Selection Process.

Prior Council Action:

For More Information: Morgan Byars, 512-974-9790; Rolando Fernandez, 512-974-7749; Elizabeth Godfrey-Weidig, 512-974-7141

Boards and Commission Action:

MBE / WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9B (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 15.80% MBE and 15.80% WBE participation.

Related Items:

Additional Backup Information

Rotation list contracting allows the City to always have a group of qualified consultants available to perform a specific type of recurring work in a timely manner to meet the project needs of the Watershed Protection Department. The objective of this rotation list is to provide consultant engineering services to the City for stream restoration and watershed management. Prior to issuing this solicitation, it was reviewed by the City's Rotation List Advisory Committee, which is

made up of staff from the Contract Management Department, Small and Minority Business Resources Department, Public Works Department and the Watershed Protection Department as the requesting sponsor department. The total authorization amount, the number of firms to be recommended for selection, and the authorization amount per firm were discussed and reviewed by the Committee.

Firms were selected through the City's standard Qualifications-Based Selection process. The Qualifications-Based Selection process is a nationally recognized practice for selecting professional services for federal, state and local governments. Professional services, as defined by law, include the following: engineering, architectural, surveying, landscape architecture, commissioning and comprehensive planning. In Texas, Chapter 2254 of the Government Code lays out a process for the selection of professional services consultants based strictly on demonstrated competence and qualifications. After determining the most qualified, statute requires a fair and reasonable price with the selected vendor or vendors.

The current Qualifications-Based Selection process employed by the City has been in place since 2012. It includes eight evaluation criteria items totaling 100 points. The scored Evaluation Criteria covers the firm's experience in the following areas: prime firm's organizational structure, prime firm's comparable experience, experience of key personnel, experience of firms performing the major scopes of work related to the overall scope, experience with Austin issues, and the City's experience with the prime firm.

The City's Watershed Protection Department provides services in its three primary missions of the watershed management program: water-quality protection, flood mitigation and stream erosion. The Environmental Resource Management Division includes the Stream Restoration and Stormwater Treatment Section which implements engineered solutions to creek erosion and storm water pollution problems. This section of the Watershed Protection Department requires professional engineering services to assist in the execution of the Capital Improvement Program projects, development of code/criteria updates and studies related to stream restoration and stormwater treatment. Typical project assignments for professional services will range in cost from approximately \$100,000 to \$500,000.

The City anticipates conducting the projects in various phases: Phase I – Preliminary Engineering Studies, Phase II – Design Phase, Phase III – Bid Phase and Phase IV – Construction Phase. For small projects, the planning and design phase may be combined. Some Phase I assignments may consist of assessments, studies or planning efforts or involve less than the full scope of services for the phase. The final scope of services for the individual project assignments will be developed with the selected firms.

The total funding authority for the 2015 Stream Restoration and Stormwater Treatment Engineering Services Rotation List is \$6,000,000 with the authority for each of the three firms to be approximately \$2,000,000.

This request allows for the development of a professional services agreement with each of the three selected firms for any or all phases listed above, for an estimated period of five years or until financial authorization is expended. Initial project assignments will be based on the firm's final ranking as determined during the Request for Qualifications evaluation (highest to lowest), the maximum cumulative contracted amount in comparison to the estimated task budget for that firm, and the firm's qualifications and availability of expertise at time of project need. Per firm authorizations may be increased or decreased, through the life of the contract, based on the needs of a particular assignment and will follow the established rotation list policies and procedures. If the City is unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory agreement with a recommended firm, if a selected firm ceases practice during the contract period, or if the City elects to terminate its agreement with one of the selected firms, the remaining assignments will be assigned to the remaining firms for the duration of the contract period.

Participation goals stated in the solicitation were 1.90% African American; 9.00 Hispanic; 4.90% Native/Asian; 15.80 % WBE. The recommended firms provided a MBE/WBE Compliance Plan that met the goals or through achievements of Good Faith Effort and were approved by the Small and Minority Business Resources Department.

This Request for Qualifications (RFQ) solicitation was issued on November 3, 2014 through the City's Vendor Connection web portal, which resulted in 945 firms receiving notice. The solicitation documents were obtained by 139 firms; 15 firms submitted responses. None of the firms were certified MBE /WBE firms. Of the 15 firms evaluated, three firms were selected.

RECOMMENDED FIRMS:

HDR ENGINEERING, INC.

CH2MHILL ENGINEERS, INC.

ESPEY CONSULTANTS, INC. dba RPS

HDR Engineering, Inc., is located in Austin, TX

CH2MHill Engineers, Inc., is located in Austin, TX

Espey Consultants, Inc. dba RPS, is located in Austin, TX