

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council

Item ID:

46748

Agenda Number

55.

Meeting Date:

June 18, 2015

Department:

Purchasing

Subject

Authorize award, negotiation, and execution of a contract with ECONORTHWEST to provide consulting services for the South Central Waterfront Initiative for a total contract amount not to exceed \$99,950.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Capital Budget of the Planning and Development Review Department.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:

Best evaluated proposal received for consulting services.

Prior Council Action:

For More Information:

Paige McDonald, Senior Buyer, 512-974-2076. Terry Nicholson, Senior Buyer Specialist, 512-974-2995

Boards and Commission Action:

June 8, 2015 - Approved by the Waterfront Planning and Advisory Board on a 6-0-1 vote with Vice-Chair Schultz absent.

Related Items:

MBE / WBE:

This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. Per the City's Small and Minority Resources Department, no subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

Additional Backup Information

The contract is for an experienced firm to provide financial and economic consulting in the creation of a master plan for the City's South Central Waterfront (SCW). The area includes a 97-acre district along Lady Bird Lake directly across from downtown and is comprised of 31 private property owners and one City-owned property. Referred to as the SCW Initiative, and directed by Council Resolution 20130808-058, this master plan will reshape the tract to include an attractive pedestrian environment, expanded open spaces, enhanced connections to and along the waterfront, improve connectivity throughout the district, and encourage significant affordable housing. The resulting master plan will be flexible enough to adjust as the area changes with development forecasted to exceed \$1.2 billion in the next 20 years.

The Consultant will assist in the creation of a financial framework for the overall project. This process will include a public and stakeholder engagement process, assessment of market conditions, evaluation of urban design scenarios, reports on key partners, definition of implementation steps, phasing considerations, and evaluation of financing strategies. To aid in the process, the City has secured a federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) award for consultation services with CMG Landscape Architecture regarding the green infrastructure elements of the Initiative. CMG was hired by the EPA to begin this work in July of 2015, and the ultimate success of the project is reliant on the Consultant being active on the project during the EPA's involvement.

This contract is the next step in the Initiative, which began in 2014. By leveraging grants, in-kind donations, and community partnerships, City staff led a community planning process, which engaged over 600 citizens and area property owners. Based on this work, staff delivered the SCW Interim Vision Framework Report to Council, outlining a vision for how private investments can be coordinated with City investments and strategic partnerships to yield positive change and community benefits.

MBE/WBE solicited: 77/49

MBE/WBE bid: 1/0

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Adequate competition.
- b. 1243 notices were sent including 77 MBEs and 49 WBEs. Seven proposals were received, including one MBE and no response from the WBEs.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Best evaluated proposal.
- b. The Purchasing Office recommends contract award consistent with the evaluation committee.
- c. Advertised in the Austin American Statesman and on the internet.