

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council

Item ID:

59185

Agenda Number

16.

Meeting Date:

June 23, 2016

Department:

Purchasing

Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a 16-month contract with RILEY WELCH LAPORTE & ASSOCIATES FORENSIC LABORATORIES, or one of the other qualified offerors to Request for Proposals EAD0127, for the technical review of the sexual assault backlog elimination program in an amount not to exceed \$216,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$216,000 is available in the Austin Police Department's Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Elimination Program Grant.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:

The Purchasing Office issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) EAD0127 for these services on April 11, 2016 and it closed on April 28, 2016 with three offers received. The recommended offer is the best evaluated offer submitted by a responsible offeror. Additional information on the solicitation is included below the line.

Prior Council Action:

April 21, 2016 - Council approved the sexual assault backlog elimination program, item 23.

For More Information:

Erin D'Vincent, Senior Buyer Specialist, 512-974-3070

Boards and Commission Action:



Related Items:

MBE / WBE:

This solicitation was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the services required for this solicitation, there was an insufficient number of certified M/WBEs; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established.

Additional Backup Information

The contract is for a technical review of the Austin Police Department (APD) sexual assault deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) backlog data received from an independent laboratory. The technical review of the laboratory data is a required process to ensure the DNA profile is eligible for the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). In order to meet the objectives of the program, APD will utilize an external vendor to review the work of the analysis laboratory so that all eligible DNA profiles can be searched against the CODIS database. The contract will permit approximately 3,000 sexual assault kits (SAKs) forensic DNA profiles to be entered into the CODIS database.

APD was awarded the 2015 Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Elimination Grant by the District Attorney's Office of New York on December 20, 2015. The grant promotes strategies to permanently eliminate SAK backlog. The award of this contract will help ensure the timely turnaround of cases as well as take the burden off the already stretched APD laboratory.

An evaluation team with expertise in this area evaluated the offers and scored Riley Welch Laporte & Associates Forensics Laboratories as the best to provide these services based on schedule, total evaluated price, work plan and approach, demonstrated applicable experience including personnel qualifications, confidentiality and security requirements, and local business presence.

This request allows for the development of a contract with a qualified offeror that Council selects. If the City is unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory contract with the selected offeror, negotiations will cease with that provider. Staff will return to Council so Council may select another qualified offeror and authorize contract negotiations with this provider.

The grant currently expires September 30, 2017. A delay in approving or failure to approve this contract will result in APD not being able to meet the terms of the grant. Performing these services are essential in assisting law enforcement in identifying unknown suspects, linking DNA profiles between crime scenes, and eliminating suspects in sexual assault cases.

A complete solicitation package, including a response list, is on file in the City's Purchasing Office and is available on the City's Financial Services Austin Finance Online website. Link: [Solicitation Documents](#)