

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	65756	Agenda Number	10.
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Meeting Date:	December 8, 2016
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Department:	Purchasing
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Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with MINORITIES FOR EQUALITY IN EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION, LIBERTY AND JUSTICE DBA MELJ JUSTICE CENTER, to provide case management and associated services for previously incarcerated persons and their families, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Operating Budget of the Downtown Austin Community Court.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	Sole Source
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Prior Council Action:	
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For More Information:	Tracy Franklin, Senior Buyer Specialist, 512-974-2034
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Boards and Commission Action:	
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Related Items:	
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MBE / WBE:	This contract is exempt from the City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established.
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Additional Backup Information

The contract will provide case management services for a minimum of 100 persons previously incarcerated for non-sexual offenses and their families. These services will include job and life skills training, family support, employment and housing assistance, adult basic education and GED preparation, outpatient chemical dependency counseling/treatment and connection to other basic needs resources. This comprehensive approach is statistically proven to drastically reduce recidivism.

According to the Texas Legislative Budget Board, Texas taxpayers pay \$18,538 per year to incarcerate one inmate. At this rate, \$250,000 would almost pay for the incarceration of 13 inmates per year. Board statistics show that it costs \$3,909 per year to maintain individuals on community supervision with minimum linkage to drug treatment. In comparison, the Minorities for Equality in Employment, Education, Liberty and Justice dba MELJ Justice Center can provide a more comprehensive case management approach at a cost of \$2,500 per individual, annually.

If the City is unable to secure this contract, 100 previously incarcerated persons will not receive these comprehensive case management services and will run a much higher risk of reentering the criminal justice system.

Performance Measures

Output Measure

Number of unduplicated participants served 100

Outcome Measure

Percentage of participants finding employment or academic enrollment 60%

Outcome Measure

Percentage of participants reentering the criminal justice system after 90 days 8%

Output Measure

Number of participants who are actively on parole 60

Outcome Measure

Percentage of participants who complete parole successfully after case management 90%