



**Water & Wastewater Commission
Review and Recommendation**

Commission Meeting Date:	July 11, 2018
Council Meeting Date:	August 9, 2018
Department:	Purchasing
Client:	Daniel Layton, Rick Coronado, and David Anders
Agenda Item	
<p>Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with OW Investors LLC D/B/A MARS Company, for the upgrade of software and system components on water meter test benches including ongoing license and support fees, for a term of five years in an amount not to exceed \$412,000.</p>	
Amount and Source of Funding	
<p>Funding in the amount of \$13,734 is available in the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Operating Budget of Austin Water. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.</p>	
Purchasing Language:	Sole Source
Prior Council Action:	N/A
Boards and Commission Action:	July 11, 2018 - To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.
MBE/WBE:	Sole source contracts are exempt from the City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established.

The contract will provide upgrades to the Austin Water meter testing benches. The Contractor will upgrade Series 2400 and 10000 water meter accuracy test benches to MARS Gravimetric Systems which provide greater accuracy, testing of lower flows, and automation features. The benches were installed in 2000 and have not been upgraded since. The upgrades allow for more meters to be serviced with less time taken per test. The result for the City is increased productivity, more accurate meters, and increased recovered revenue. The upgraded systems will include automation that will allow the operator to perform other functions while executing the meter testing. The system will include calibration tanks, installation, training, and an annual software service agreement.

This is a new contract for the City and is the result of a consultant conducting an assessment of the meter shop processes and recommending the benches be upgraded. The upgrades will improve efficiency and allow testing at lower flow rates than currently possible. The current benches are functional, and are certified as accurate, but the upgrade enhances the benches with new capabilities. It will also provide repeatable accuracy testing for new meters purchased by Austin Water customers.

OW Investors LLC D/B/A MARS Company is the sole provider of upgrades to their test benches and does not allow any authorized representatives to provide sales, service, maintenance or technical support when selling directly to Austin Water.

BID TABULATION

N/A

VENDOR

TOTAL BID

OW Investors LLC D/B/A MARS
Company

\$412,000

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a) Note: Award of contract is based on sole source.
- b) Competitive Status: N/A.
- c) Solicitations: 0 notices were sent, including 0 MBE and 0 WBE firms.
- d) Price Analysis: N/A

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a) Austin Water concurs with Central Purchasing recommended award.