

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: December 13, 2018

Item Number: **038**

Purchasing Office

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Fundamentals Group Inc. D/B/A TXP Inc., for child care consulting services, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000. (Note: This procurement 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 procurement, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

Lead Department	Purchasing Office.
Fiscal Note	Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Operating Budget of Austin Public Health.
Purchasing Language	Professional Service.
Prior Council Action	September 28, 2017 - Council approved Resolution No. 20170928-057, item 57, on a 10-0 vote, with Council Member Troxclair absent.
For More Information	Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager’s Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov or to the buyer, Erin D’Vincent at 512-974-3070 or erin.dvincent@austintexas.gov .
Client Department(s)	Austin Public Health.

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Additional Backup Information:

The contract will provide consulting services related to exploring potential incentive programs and public-private partnerships that could be effectively implemented in Austin around quality child care. On September 28, 2017, Council passed a resolution directing a comprehensive citywide needs and gap assessment regarding high quality child care facilities. Austin Public Health convened a Quality Child Care and Pre-K3 Resolution Work Group, which consisted of local experts on quality child care to gather community wide data and input on policy, practices, and funding priorities.

The consultant will work with Austin Public Health, the Economic Development Department, United Way for Greater Austin, Early Matters Greater Austin, and other community partners regarding incentive programs and public private partnerships that could expand access to quality child care. Recently, the consultant did work for the Economic Development Department on the development of the Chapter 380 Business Expansion Program Guidelines report. The report includes three program categories for incentives to employers, all of which list child care as a potential factor in the programs being developed.

The consultant is in a unique position to leverage the findings already identified in its review to explore options for new incentives or partnerships related to expand access to quality child care in more depth. They have researched child care costs, the economic and social benefits, avoided or redirected costs of quality child care services, and the economic and fiscal impact of expanded access to child care in San Antonio for a study about public funding of child care services there. They also performed this type of work for hundreds of projects. The combined expertise regarding child care and the Chapter 380 policy development in our City makes this consultant uniquely qualified to produce a high quality and in-depth report.