



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-2372, **Agenda Item #:** 39.

8/22/2019

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Davey Resource Group, Inc., or other qualified offeror to Request for Proposals 1100 DMD3004, to provide a comprehensive, system-wide inventory of utility poles and communications attachments, in an amount not to exceed \$1,100,000.

(Note: 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 were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

Lead Department

Purchasing Office.

Client Department(s)

Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.

Purchasing Language:

The Purchasing Office issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) 1100 DMD3004 for these services. The solicitation issued on December 24, 2018 and it closed on January 31, 2019. Of the 11 offers received, the recommended contractor submitted the best evaluated responsive offer. A complete solicitation package, including a log of offers received, is available for viewing on the City's Financial Services website, Austin Finance Online. Link: [Solicitation Documents](https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=126751)
<https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=126751>.

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or

AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov <<mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov>>

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall continue to direct inquiries to the solicitation's Authorized Contact Person: Sandy Brandt, at 512-322-6594 or Sandy.Brandt@austintexas.gov <<mailto:Sandy.Brandt@austintexas.gov>>.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

July 15, 2019 - Recommended unanimously by the Electric Utility Commission on a 10-0 vote, with Chair Ferchill absent.

Additional Backup Information:

The contract is to conduct a comprehensive inventory of approximately 130,000 distribution utility poles and an estimated 310,000 communications attachments in Austin Energy's 437+ square-mile service area.

Telecommunication, cable, and data providers access Austin Energy's infrastructure to disseminate subscriber services to the public. This inventory will provide Austin Energy with pole characteristics (height, class, number) and communications attachment information including: type; owner and location on the pole; violation type (double pole, guy wire, distance); attachment tags; transfers; and photos. An accurate pole attachment inventory affects annual billed revenues estimated at \$3.5 million. This inventory is necessary to:

- Ensure poles are not overloaded, which could pose a safety risk to Austin Energy and private-sector communications personnel, and the public;
- Monitor compliance with National Electric Safety Codes and promptly rectify violations;
- Determine accurate billing for use of utility poles and avoid lost revenue; and
- Assess whether utility infrastructure is being maintained in a way that promotes longevity of utility assets.

An evaluation team with expertise in this area evaluated the offers and scored Davey Resource Group, Inc. as the best to provide these services based on demonstrated applicable experience and personnel, price, solution and project management structure, local business presence, and service-disabled veteran business enterprise.

This request allows for the development of a contract with a qualified offeror selected by Council. 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 that another qualified offeror may be selected, authorizing new contract negotiations.