



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-2843, **Agenda Item #:** 12.

9/19/2019

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with Smith & Company Architects, (MBE) (staff recommendation) or one of the other qualified responders for Request for Qualifications Solicitation No. CLMP260 to provide Master Planning Services for The George Washington Carver Museum, Cultural & Genealogy Center Master Plan in amount not to exceed \$300,000.

[Note: This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9B (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 15.80% MBE and 15.80% WBE participation.]

Lead Department

Capital Contracting Office

Managing Department(s)

Parks and Recreation Department

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Operating Budget of the Austin Parks and Recreation Department.

Purchasing Language:

Staff recommendation is the most qualified firm out of two firms evaluated through the City's qualification-based selection process.

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov.

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall direct inquiries to Rolando Fernandez, 512-974-7749, Beverly Mendez, 512-974-3596, or the Project Manager, Charles Mabry, 512-974-9481.

Additional Backup Information:

The George Washington Carver Museum & Cultural Center (Carver Museum) is dedicated to the collection, preservation, research, interpretation and exhibition of historical and cultural materials reflecting all dimensions of experiences of persons of African descent living in Austin, Travis County, and in the United States. The museum is also a key source of information on the history and celebration of Juneteenth.

In 2000, a Feasibility Study for the Expansion of the Carver Museum was conducted, and a 3-phase building program was developed. The Phase 1 development outlined in this study was opened in 2005. The expansion included a lobby with reception, lecture hall/theater, classrooms, dance studio, dark room, conference room, commercial kitchen, storage, outdoor plazas and expanded parking.

Today, the Carver Museum is facing growth challenges with a new desire to expand programming and events. The 2000 Feasibility Study outlined Phase 2 and 3 improvements that have not been realized. Some of these planned future improvements include a museum store, recording studio, outdoor concessions, choir/vocal studio, new education building, new theater and additional parking.

The purpose of this contract is to conduct a review and develop a master plan of the elements proposed with the 2000 Feasibility Study, current programming, revenue generation, facility condition and capacity. There is a strong community desire to develop a new Carver Museum master plan to meet the community needs of today.

The community has a strong interest in the future development of the Carver Museum. The project scope will include a public outreach and engagement plan that will include a minimum of three community wide meetings, small-scale, focus group meetings, surveys and additional outreach through social media.

This authorization provides for funding for the development of the Master Plan. This request allows for the development of an agreement with the qualified responder that Council selects. If the City is unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory agreement with the selected responder, negotiations will cease with that provider. Staff will return to Council so that Council may select another qualified responder and authorize contract negotiations with that provider.

TOP RANKED FIRM: Smith & Company Architects (MBE/MB), is located in Austin, Texas

SECOND RANKED FIRM: Carter Design Associates (WBE/FB), is located in Austin, Texas

Information on this solicitation is available through the City's Austin Finance Online website. Link:

[Solicitation Documents](#)

https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=130105