



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 19-2561, **Agenda Item #:** 50.

9/19/2019

### Posting Language

Authorize award of a contract with Wescam USA, Inc., for the purchase of a thermal imaging sensor system for aircraft operations, for a total amount not to exceed \$403,389.

(Note: This solicitation was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9D Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the goods required for this solicitation, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

### Lead Department

Purchasing Office.

### Client Department(s)

Austin Police Department.

### Fiscal Note

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

### Purchasing Language:

The Purchasing Office issued an Invitation for Bids (IFB) 8700 BRS1001REBID for these goods. The solicitation issued on June 3, 2019 and it closed on June 20, 2019. The recommended contractor submitted the only responsive offer. A complete solicitation package, including a tabulation for the bid 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=131176>](https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=131176).

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

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall continue to direct inquiries to the solicitation's Authorized contact person: Bridney Stewart, at 512-974-3127 or [Bridney.Stewart@austintexas.gov](mailto:Bridney.Stewart@austintexas.gov) <<mailto:Bridney.Stewart@austintexas.gov>>.

### Additional Backup Information:

The contract is for the purchase of a thermal imaging sensor system to be utilized by the Austin Police Department's Air Support Unit and Special Weapons and Tactics Unit. A thermal imaging camera utilizes a special thermal lens to detect infrared light which is completely invisible to the human eye.

Thermal imaging enables law enforcement officers the ability to detect, track, locate, and apprehend suspects more efficiently in adverse weather conditions such as dense foliage, woodland, or low light conditions. Tracking suspects from an aerial view offers an expanded view of the environment and aids officers on the

ground by tracking the movement of a suspect in real time.

Delaying or failure to approve this contract will limit the aircraft's imaging capabilities and could impact the department's efficiency and availability.