



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-1245, **Agenda Item #:** 31.

2/20/2020

Posting Language

Authorize an amendment to the existing contract with West Monroe Partners LLC, for continued consulting services to assist in the next phases of advanced meter infrastructure program management, for an increase in the amount of \$6,355,000, for a revised contract amount not to exceed \$8,456,000.

(Note: This contract was awarded in compliance with City Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Program. Current participation to date is 12.20% MBE and 1.88% WBE).

Lead Department

Purchasing Office.

Client Department(s)

Purchasing Office.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Capital Budget of Austin Water. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Purchasing Language:

Contract Amendment.

Prior Council Action:

December 7, 2017 - Council approved the original contract which included phases I-III, item 41, on a 9-0 vote with Council Members Garza and Troxclair absent.

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>> or to Matthew Duree, at 512-974-6346 or Matthew.Duree@austintexas.gov <<mailto:Matthew.Duree@austintexas.gov>>.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

February 12, 2020 - To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

Additional Backup Information:

The Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project will replace analog customer water meters with electronic water meters connected to a wireless network, so that meter reads will no longer be collected manually every month. After AMI implementation, water meter reads will be collected at least daily. This data will be made available to customers via electronic devices, so they can better monitor their water usage between billing cycles. Electronic water meters will improve data collection by reducing meter re-reads and providing more frequent data collection while minimizing the man-hours and vehicle mileage currently needed to support the manual meter reading contract. Near real-time AMI data will be made available to customers via smartphones,

desktop computers, etc. as they use water during the billing cycle. Other potential benefits include improving customer service and satisfaction, enabling customer usage alerts before a bill arrives, and identifying potential customer-side leaks. This data will also enable Austin Water (AW) to have better system diagnostic tools, such as leak detection. Additionally, this project will produce a superior metering asset management database that will better facilitate operations and maintenance activities. Although meter reads will be collected more frequently, the city's existing multi-service billing process through its Customer Care and Billing system will remain and continue to calculate customer's monthly bills.

In December 2017, Council approved a contract with West Monroe Partners, LLC for phases I, II, and III of the VI phase project. This initial contract included the production of an AMI Assessment Report which was reviewed by the AW executive team, and assistance with the production of AMI system integrator solicitation documents. The assessment report evaluated which AMI technologies are best for AW and determined their potential impact on AWs business processes. The report also included a detailed business case comparing the necessary replacement of aged analog meters with either new analog products, or with new electronic AMI meters and associated infrastructure.

The contractor has successfully completed phases I, II, and III of the project, so as was stated in the initial Recommendation for Council Action, staff is now requesting authorization for phases IV through VI to complete the project. The remaining phase are:

- Phase IV - program management of pilot scale AMI meter deployment and complete system integration
- Phase V - program management of full-scale AMI meter deployment
- Phase VI - comprehensive AMI system validation of all business process needs

This proposed amendment includes a 10% contingency to cover unknown conditions which may be encountered during the implementation requiring additional consulting assistance.

If the City is unable to proceed with the final phases of this contract, AW will be unable to continue with implementing the planned AMI program.