



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-1551, Agenda Item #: 27.

4/7/2022

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with John Bruce Coffman d/b/a John B Coffman, LLC to provide independent consumer advocate services, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.

(Note: This procurement was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9B, 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. However, the recommended contractor identified subcontracting opportunities).

Lead Department

Financial Services Department.

Client Department(s)

Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.

Purchasing Language:

Professional Service.

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to Liz Lock, at 512-322-6251 or Liz.Lock@austintexas.gov [<mailto:Liz.Lock@austintexas.gov>](mailto:Liz.Lock@austintexas.gov).

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

March 21, 2022 - Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission on a 7-0 vote with Commissioners Bowen, Cardenas, Chapman, and Funkhauser absent.

Additional Backup Information:

The contract will provide Austin Energy with a contractor to act as an independent consumer advocate (ICA) to assist Austin Energy and Council in determining and adopting fair, just, and reasonable electricity base rates, specifically for the residential and small commercial customers. The contractor will develop recommendations and support materials on behalf of Austin Energy's residential and small commercial customers during a base rate review process and before Council.

In 2012, Council adopted Ordinance No. 20120607-055 requiring the City to hire an ICA to represent the interests of residential and small commercial customers in Austin Energy rate proceedings, and to review the methodology and development of Austin Energy's cost of service and rate structure.

Staff vetted a short list of contractors for their expertise in this specialized field of study to determine the best

value to the City.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Government that Works for All.