



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-1723, Agenda Item #: 8.

5/5/2022

Posting Language

Ratify a contract with Texas Excavation Safety System Inc. to provide utility location services, in the amount of \$105,854.

(Note: This contract is exempt from the City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

Lead Department

Financial Services Department.

Client Department(s)

Austin Water, Austin Transportation Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding was available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Austin Water's Operating Budget.

Purchasing Language:

Ratification.

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to Erin D'Vincent, at 512-974-3070 or erin.dvincent@austintexas.gov or [<mailto:erin.dvincent@austintexas.gov>](mailto:erin.dvincent@austintexas.gov).

Additional Backup Information:

The contract with Texas Excavation Safety System Inc. is required by the state of Texas Utilities Code, Title 5, Chapter 251 and requires the City contact Texas Excavation Safety System Inc. before digging can start in order to locate and mark pipe locations in right of ways for entities that will be excavated.

The increase in usage is due to surges in average monthly tickets and cost per ticket increases from \$0.26 to \$0.50. Additionally, pipe breaks and damages sustained during Winter Storm Uri, the increase construction within the growing city, and switching water meters from the standard meters over to the new water meters contributed to the overspend of the contract.

The previous contract was authorized administratively and was not expected to exceed the City Manager's annual contract authority. In the last several months however, the City has experienced an unexpected increase in (1) the need for these services and (2) the charges for these services; as these services are required by statute to support ongoing projects, the City could not suspend usage of the contract without risking delays on multiple projects.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Safety.