



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-3559, Agenda Item #: 27.

12/8/2022

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of two contracts with Ai-Media Technologies LLC and Texas Closed Captioning LLC for closed captioning, related services, and equipment systems, each for a term of five years in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000, divided between the contractors.

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

Lead Department

Financial Services Department.

Client Department(s)

All City Departments.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$250,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Operating Budgets of various City departments. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Purchasing Language:

The Financial Services Department issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) 5000 BYS3015REBID for these goods and services. The solicitation was issued on July 11, 2022, and it closed on August 11, 2022. Of the four offers received, the recommended contractors submitted the best evaluated responsive offer. A complete solicitation package, including a log of offers received, is available for viewing on the City's Financial Services website, Austin Finance Online. Link: [Solicitation Documents](https://financeonline.austintexas.gov/afo/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=136573)
<https://financeonline.austintexas.gov/afo/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=136573>.

For More Information:

Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall continue to direct inquiries to the solicitation's Authorized Contact Person: Brenita Wilkison, at 512-974-3164 or brenita.selement@austintexas.gov
<<mailto:brenita.selement@austintexas.gov>>.

Additional Backup Information:

These contracts will provide closed captioning services on television and video streaming for regularly scheduled Council meetings, Council work sessions, and Council committee and commission meetings. Also provided are additional closed captioning services for special City programs, meetings, or news conferences. Closed captioning displays the audio portion of a televised program as text on a television screen providing full access to meeting coverage for individuals who are hearing impaired. A captioner or automated system will listen to the live meetings, enter the words using a phonetic keyboard, and special software will translate and display the words simultaneously on the television screen. Council meeting transcripts are created from the

closed captioning of each meeting. Closed captioning is Americans with Disabilities Act compliant by the Federal Communications Commission television guidelines.

These contracts will replace a contract which expires on December 15, 2022. The requested authorization amounts were determined using departmental estimates and historical spend. This is an increase from the previous contract due to an increase in departmental use. One of the two recommended contractors is the current provider for these services.

An evaluation team with expertise in this area evaluated the offers and scored Ai-Media Technologies LLC and Texas Closed Captioning LLC as the best to provide these services based on work plan approach, experience and qualifications, price, level of technology for equipment and cloud-based services, local business presence, and service-disabled veteran business presence.

If these contracts are not secured, public meetings, news conferences and events would not be closed captioned. These captions are used to allow the hearing-impaired community to follow City of Austin activities and for generating transcripts for review.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Government that Works for All.