Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-3767, **Agenda Item #:** 10. 1/26/2023

Posting Language
Authorize execution of a contract for vegetation shredding services with Unity Contractor Services, Inc. for a term of five years in an amount not to exceed $875,000.

[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)
Austin Water.

Fiscal Note
Funding in the amount of $116,667 is available in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Operating Budget of Austin Water. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Purchasing Language:
The Financial Services Department issued an Invitation for Bids (IFB) 2200 SLW1074 for these services. The solicitation was issued on September 12, 2022 and closed on September 29, 2022. Of the six offers received, the recommended contractor submitted the lowest responsive offer. A complete solicitation package, including a tabulation of the bids 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=137535>.

For More Information:
Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall continue to direct inquiries to the solicitation's Authorized Contact Person: Sandy Wirtanen, at 512-974-7711 or sandy.wirtanen@austintexas.gov <mailto:sandy.wirtanen@austintexas.gov>.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:
January 18, 2023 - To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

Additional Backup Information:
The contract will provide vegetation shredding for Austin Water's Quality Protection Lands (WQPL). The shredding is needed to help meet the goals of restoring these selected lands to a grass land and savannah ecosystem. This type of vegetation shredding helps yield optimal water quantity and quality to recharge the Edwards Aquifer, through Barton Springs, which is the primary goal of the WQPL program. The land management plan directing these practices and goals was approved by Council on December 13, 2012, Resolution No. 20121213-003.

The current contract expires on March 1, 2023. The requested authorization amount was determined using spend from previous years along with estimated projections.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.