



## Recommendation for Action

**File #: 23-2741, Agenda Item #: 27.**

**9/21/2023**

### **Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract for overpass, under bridge, and transportation right of way clean up with Relief Enterprise of Texas, Inc., for up to three years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,725,000.

[Note: This procurement 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 procurement, 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 \$23,959 is available in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Operating Budget of the Transportation and Public Works Department. Funding in the amount of \$23,959 is available in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Operating Budget of Austin Resource Recovery. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

### **Purchasing Language:**

Exempt - Services performed by blind or severely disabled persons.

### **For More Information:**

Direct questions regarding this Recommendation for Council Action to the Financial Services Department - Central Procurement at: [FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov](mailto:FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov) or 512-974-2500.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

The City has been removing debris, trash, and unsafe items from homeless encampments under bridge overpasses over the last four years after this responsibility was transferred from the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to the City. The primary goal of performing these services is to ensure the public right of way (ROW) is clean and safe for all residents, and not to remove any individuals who may be camping at the underpass locations. The contract will allow the City to continue these important clean up services at locations underneath Interstate 35, US 183, Loop 1, and US 290, and, at other areas in the public ROW as they are identified.

The services in this request are similar to other contracts for homeless encampment clean ups, but the main differences are that this contract focuses solely on services at underpasses and State and City ROWs, and the services are provided by disabled and underprivileged individuals. The contractor is a 501(c)3 non-profit

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employment agency located in Austin and has been successfully providing these services since the responsibility was transferred from TxDOT to the City. Both this contract and other contracts for homeless encampment clean ups require that the contractor designate an on-site supervisor to manage crews and ensure all necessary safety procedures are followed.

State law allows political subdivisions to substitute services available from blind or disabled persons for those which could be purchased from private business without securing competitive bids (Texas Human Resources Code, Section 122.017 and Texas Local Government Code Section 252.022(a)(13)).

This contract will replace a contract expiring on January 25, 2024. The requested authorization amount was determined using historical spend, anticipated usage, and contractor pricing for monthly service locations. The recommended contractor is the current provider for these services.

**Contract Detail:**

<b><u>Contract Term</u></b>	<b><u>Length of Term</u></b>	<b><u>Contract Authorization</u></b>
Initial Term	1 yr.	\$ 575,000
Optional Extension 1	1 yr.	\$ 575,000
Optional Extension 2	1 yr.	\$ 575,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3 yrs.</b>	<b>\$1,725,000</b>

**Note:** Contract Authorization amounts are based on the City's estimated annual usage.