



## Recommendation for Action

---

**File #:** 23-3022, **Agenda Item #:** 10.

10/19/2023

---

### **Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract for blood products with We Are Blood, for a term of five years in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.

[Note: Sole source contracts are exempt from the City Code Chapter 2-9D (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program); therefore, no subcontracting goals were established].

### **Lead Department**

Financial Services Department.

### **Client Department(s)**

Emergency Medical Services.

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$200,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Operating Budget of Emergency Medical Services. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

### **Purchasing Language:**

Sole Source.

### **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) [<mailto:FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov>](mailto:FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov) or 512-974-2500.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

The contract will provide blood products to the City's first responders for transfusion to patients experiencing life-threatening bleeding during emergency calls. Excessive bleeding is the leading cause of potentially survivable pre-hospital deaths. Patients transfused within 30 minutes of injury or life-threatening hemorrhage have an increased chance of survival. Early pre-hospital use of blood helps conserve community resources by reducing the amount of blood a patient needs. These services began as a pilot program in May 2021, and its considerable success has led to an expansion of the program. This contract will also provide whole blood, red blood cells, and liquid plasma.

This contract will replace a contract expiring on May 15, 2024. Authorization on the current contract is exhausted due to the expansion of the program. The recommended contractor is the current provider for these goods. Authorization amounts were determined based on historical spend and the contractor's quoted price. The contractor is the only blood center that serves the City and the inclusive 10-county Central Texas region. As the exclusive community blood supplier, the contractor serves over 40 hospitals and medical facilities in the 10-county area.

If the City is unable to secure this contract, the blood program cannot continue and may result in additional loss of life due to lack of blood products.