



City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 24-4157, **Agenda Item #:** 9.

4/4/2024

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract to provide human immunodeficiency virus and sexually transmitted infection self-collect home testing kits and services with National Coalition of STD Directors, for up to five years in an amount not to exceed \$750,000.

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

Lead Department

Financial Services Department.

Client Department(s)

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$75,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Operating Budget of Austin Public Health.

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 or 512-974-2500.

Additional Backup Information:

This contract will provide human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and sexually transmitted infection (STI) self-collect home testing kits and services for high-risk patients in underserved areas of the City and Travis County on an as-needed basis. Austin Public Health (APH) Communicable Diseases' Sexual Health clinic provides HIV and STI screenings and medical examinations for patients in a clinical setting through its outreach team. An important section of the public remains unreachable through traditional clinic and public health services due to significant changes in demographics, service provider availability, cultural shifts in service delivery expectations, and generational behavioral shifts. To further assist this demographic with testing needs, APH requires self-collect testing for this part of the population to utilize in private home settings and access results without visiting a clinic or outreach location. "Check Yourself" is a public health solution for non-clinic based self-collect testing offered through the National Coalition of STD Directors.

This is a new contract. The requested authorization amounts were determined by using departmental estimates.

A delay in approval of this contract could affect APH's ability to provide safe in-home testing for HIV and STIs to this underserved demographic.