



Posting Language

Recommend approval to authorize a contract for cold-water meters for Austin Water with Thirkettle Corporation d/b/a Aqua-Metric Sales Company, for an initial term of one year with up to two one-year extension options for a total contract amount not to exceed \$6,000,000. Funding: \$900,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Operating Budget of Austin Water. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Lead Department

Financial Services Department.

Client Department(s)

Austin Water.

Purchasing Language:

Multiple contractors within this cooperative purchasing program were reviewed for these goods. The Financial Services Department determined this contractor best meets the needs of Austin Water to provide these goods required for the City.

MBE/WBE:

Cooperative Agreement 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.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

January 15, 2025 – To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

Additional Backup Information:

The contract will provide various types and sizes of cold-water meters for Austin Water to install throughout the water distribution system. These meters work with the Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) system, which is necessary to measure usage and flow within the City's water distribution system to establish revenue billing.

The contract will replace multiple current contracts, expiring from December 31, 2024, through June 9, 2025, for the same goods. The requested authorization amount was determined using departmental estimates based on historical spending. The contractor is currently the provider of these goods.

The Houston-Galveston Area Council is a cooperative purchasing association recognized under Texas procurement statutes. Cooperative associations, themselves or using a lead government, competitively solicit and award contracts that are eligible for use by other qualified state and local governments. Due to their substantial volumes, larger than any one government could achieve independently, cooperative contracts routinely include superior terms, conditions, and pricing. Use of cooperative contracts also results in lower administrative costs and time savings.

If a contract is not secured, the department will be forced to procure meters on an as needed basis, which may result in higher prices on the open market and the inability to make repairs or provide new customers with water access.

Contract Details:

Contract Term	Length of Term	Contract Authorization
Initial Term	1 year	\$2,000,000
Optional Extension 1	1 year	\$2,000,000
Optional Extension 2	1 year	\$2,000,000
Total	3 years	\$6,000,000

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