

Environment Committee

Meeting date: July 8, 2014

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of July 23, 2014

Subject: Authorization to Award and Execute Three (3) Master Contracts for Geotechnical and Other Testing Services, Metropolitan Council Contracts 14P045A, B and C

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: 3-3, Expenditures

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Division/Department: MCES c/o Leisa Thompson, 651-602-8101

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to award a \$2,000,000 master contract 14P045A with American Engineering Testing, \$1,500,000 master contract 14P045B with Braun Intertec Corporation, and a \$500,000 master contract 14P045C with Terracon Consultants.

Background

The MCES 2014-2019 Capital Improvement Program includes approximately \$500 million for interceptor system capital improvements. An essential element is availability of the necessary contracted geotechnical engineering services to support these efforts, preferably with locally based staff knowledgeable about local geology, construction practices and the environment.

The proposed geotechnical engineering services contracts have been structured as master contracts, whereby MCES defines a work assignment, obtains a proposal from the engineering firm, and issues a work order for the assignment. The basic services included within the Scope of Services included Geotechnical Investigations and Reports, Hydrological Investigations, Environmental Assessments and Investigations, and Construction Materials Testing and Compliance Monitoring.

The Metropolitan Council's Environmental Services division issued a Request for Proposals on April 8, 2014 for geotechnical and other testing services. The maximum amount of these contracts was to be up to \$2,000,000 each and work to be performed on an as-needed basis with no guaranteed minimum amount. The term of each contract would run through August 31, 2019. There were 14 planholders. Six (6) proposals were received on May 8, 2014.

No goals were established for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, Women-Owned Business and Minority-Owned Business (DBE/WBE/MBE) participation due to the lack of subcontracting opportunities.

An evaluation panel consisting of three (3) Environmental Services staff trained in the process by a Council Finance Procurement Contract Administrator and Facilitator conducted an independent reading and evaluation of the proposals by each panel member followed by a meeting of the group to discuss the proposals. At the evaluation panel meeting on May 30, 2014, the group reached consensus that the proposals submitted by American Engineering Testing, Inc., Braun Intertec Corporation, and Terracon Consultants, Inc. were most advantageous to the Council. American Engineering Testing,

Inc. and Braun Intertec Corporation have been awarded several similar master geotechnical contracts with the Council in the past.

The Evaluation Panel recommended awarding the maximum contract amount of \$2,000,000 to American Engineering Testing based both on their excellent past performance and the fact Council work orders had nearly exhausted their previous contracts' amounts. The panel recommended a contract of \$1,500,000 to Braun Intertec in consideration their previous master contracts had not approached full utilization by Council work orders. A \$500,000 contract was recommended to Terracon, which is a large national firm with three local offices. Terracon has not previously held a master contract with the Council, but have demonstrated steady growth in the region and have some unique capabilities seen as advantageous for particular projects.

Rationale

Professional services contracts with an amount exceeding \$500,000 require Metropolitan Council approval.

Funding

Funding is provided by the MCES Authorized Capital Program.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.