

Environment Committee

Meeting date: October 13, 2020

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of October 28, 2020

Subject: ICS/SCADA Check Point Firewall Upgrade, Contract 20P044

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Expenditure Policy 3-3, Procurement of Goods and Services

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

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Contract 20P044 with Paragon Development Systems, Inc., to provide the Council with equipment and services for the ICS and SCADA network Check Point Firewalls in an amount not to exceed a total of \$750,876.48 for a period of five years.

Background

In 2012, a cyber security evaluation (CSET) was completed as recommended by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Network Firewalls were recommended to address potential access vulnerability found in the Industrial Control System (ICS) for the nine MCES wastewater treatment plants and the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Interceptor system. Since the 2012 CSET, MCES has conducted additional CSETs in 2015 and 2017. All the CSETs confirm the importance of maintaining properly managed and configured firewall hardware on all networks.

The current MCES Treatment Services ICS and SCADA system network firewall hardware was purchased and installed in 2013 under the Environment Committee Business Item 2013-41 as approved on February 13, 2013. The current hardware is at end of Life in 2020 and must be replaced to maintain the required network security as defined by the Metropolitan Council adopted NIST 800-82R2 network security standard.

Procurement Methodology

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was advertised to the Council and QuestCDN websites on July 20, 2020. A pre-proposal meeting was held on July 27, 2020 and there were 10 plan holders. On August 19, 2020, two of those plan holders submitted proposals that were evaluated by a four-member panel using the following criteria to evaluate the proposals: proposal quality, proposer's qualifications and professional competence in areas directly related to this RFP, experience and proposal price. Based upon the evaluation, the panel selected Paragon Development Systems, Inc as the lowest responsive, responsible bidder. The Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) reviewed the project for sub-contracting opportunities and did not establish an MCUB goal.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This action supports the Thrive outcome of Environmental stewardship as this work supports efforts to maintain the cyber security of the region's wastewater treatment plants and Interceptor system as an integral part of the ICS/SCADA systems.

Funding

All firewall hardware will be delivered in 2020 and MCES will pay an even amount in 2020 through 2024 for the hardware and maintenance agreement. This is advantageous to the annual MCES budget when large purchases are required. The project funding is authorized and available within the Environmental Services Operational budget.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.