

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Commissioners Court – July 14, 2020

AI Number: 76411

Project Number: 2020-317

Information: Prof. Engineering Services for the Automatic Doors at Main and Secondary Entrances Countywide Project

Description of AI: Requesting exemption from Competitive Bidding (**TXLGC 262.024(A)(4)**); Presentation of Scoring Grid; Authority to negotiate professional engineering services

Funding Source: CARES Act Relief Fund

Acct. # 0-1287-441-42-115-096-0-XXX

Requested by: Oscar R. Villarreal, Facilities Mgt. Director **Department:** Facilities Management

Prepared by: Rocio Villarreal, Contract Specialist III **Department:** Purchasing Department

BACKGROUND

On March 17, 2020, pursuant to the authority under Texas Government code Section 418.108, Hidalgo County Judge Richard Cortez issued a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency due to the imminent threat arising from the Coronavirus (COVID-19). On March 22, 2020, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.408(b), the Commissioners' Court of Hidalgo County issued an Order of Continuance of Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency that affirmed the activation of the Hidalgo County Emergency Management Plan and extends the Declaration of Local Disaster.

The Hidalgo County Facilities Management Office in response to the COVID-19 pandemic public health emergency has identified an immediate need to replace main and secondary door entrances countywide to automatic doors to assist in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 in public areas, while providing the most hygienic possible solution. Public safety has become a priority from shared items that require constant decontamination the automatic doors will avoid transmission of COVID-19 and other harmful viruses.

The 2010 Census has indicated that Hidalgo County has a low to moderate income level of 54.76% and the Texas Department of State Health Services estimates Hidalgo County's population to be 1,005,539. With this large impoverished population, but limited lab testing capacity, the detection, mitigation, and response to COVID-19 has been largely impacted. Current public health directive emphasizing the importance of preventing and mitigating the spread of COVID-19. With the

replacement of the main and secondary door entrances countywide to automatic doors will mitigate and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

COMPLIANCE

In compliance with the national preparedness goal under the Presidential Policy Directive (PPD-8), the Homeland Security Presidential Directives 5 (HSPD-5) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Capability 12 and pursuant to the Order of Continuance of Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency that affirmed the activation of the Hidalgo County Emergency Management Plan and extends the Declaration of Local Disaster, requests the Court's approval for the necessary engineering services to address the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic public health emergency.

ADMINISTRATION

Approval of this item is consistent with Hidalgo County's intended purpose to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and continue to provide necessary services to Hidalgo County residents in safe, clean, hygienic environment.

AGENDA ITEM CAPTION

A. Discussion, consideration, and action to approve a necessary CARES Act Relief Fund expenditure to cover cost not accounted for in the current budget and cannot be lawfully funded by line item, allotment or allocation, for Engineering Services for the Automatic Doors at Main and Secondary Entrances countywide project, in order to assist with County Public Health expenses addressing the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency; the Court having reviewed the Agenda Item Briefing, herein finds that such expenditure is reasonable and necessary for the intended use.;

B. Requesting exemption from competitive bidding requirements under Texas Local Government code, Section 262.024(A) (4) professional service;

C. Presentation of scoring grid of the firms nominated [CC/07-07-20 Alpha, Strada & Halff] to be graded & evaluated by the Evaluation Committee for the Automatic Doors at Main and Secondary Entrances countywide project for Engineering Services.

D. Authority for the Purchasing Department to negotiate a professional engineering service agreement commencing with the No. 1 ranked firm of _____.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Approval of the item will allow Hidalgo County to proceed with the current public health directive emphasizing the importance of preventing and mitigating the spread of COVID-19. As previously stated, Facilities Improvement Committee has identified that the replacement of main and secondary entrances countywide to automatic doors as it reasonable and necessary expenditure related to the County's COVID-19 Public Health Response. Expenditures will be charged to the

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and/or other assistance available to address the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Attachments:

- Scoring Grid
- Non Conflict Disclosure Form