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AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Commissioners Court – November 03, 2020

AI Number: 78060

Project Number: Req#422081

Information: [Requesting approval to purchase Reme Halos & Ionizer in-duct air purifiers for Hidalgo County Facilities Management Department *[in order to assist with County functions related to medical and public health measures.]*]

Description of AI: (A) Discussion, consideration, and action to approve a necessary CARES Act Relief Fund expenditure to cover cost of purchase); (B) Exemption from competitive bidding requirements, pursuant to Texas LGC 262.024(a)(1)&(2); (C) Requesting approval to purchase

Funding Source: CARES Act Relief Fund (TBD) **Acct. #** 0-1287-441-42-115-096-0-610

Requested by: Oscar Villarreal, Fac. Mgmt. Director **Department:** Facilities Management

Prepared by: Hector Garcia, 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 418.108(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.

Hidalgo County Health and Human Services Department (HCHHSD) in response to the COVID pandemic public health emergency and in accordance to the National Preparedness Goal under the Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD- 8) which directs us to aim in the establishment of ' secure and resilient nation with the capabilities required across the whole community to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to and recover from the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk," and in order to comply with the directive of Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5)

COMPLIANCE

Under the Presidential Policy Directive/PPD-8: National Preparedness, "it is aimed at strengthening the security and resilience of the United States through systematic preparation for the threats that pose the greatest risk to the security of the nation, including acts of terrorism, cyber-attacks, pandemics, and catastrophic natural disasters," and in compliance with the Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5), and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention,

Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Capability 9 (Medical Materiel Management and Distribution), 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, we request the courts approval for the purchase of Reme Halos & Ionizers in-duct air purifiers for Hidalgo County Facilities Management Department to continue the further needed response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

ADMINISTRATION

The Reme Halo in-duct air purifier utilizes RGF's proprietary Reflective Electro Magnetic Energy technology. Installed into the supply plenum of your existing air conditioning or heating system air ducts, the Reme Halo in-duct air purifier produces Hydro-Peroxide plasma that is distributed through the air handler, through the duct system and into the conditioned living space. Unlike passive air technologies, which need pollutants to pass through the unit for purification or filtration, the Reme Halo in-duct air purifier sweeps through your home actively purifying pollutants at the source. In addition, the charged plasma induces particles to coagulate or stick together making them bigger and easier for your filter to catch. Hydroperoxides occur naturally in the earth's atmosphere and are part of nature's process of cleaning the air. By purchasing these in-duct air purifiers and implementing them in Hidalgo County Facilities will serve as additional safety measures in the further needed response to the COVID-19 Public health emergency.

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 the purchase of Reme Halos and Ionizer in-duct air purifiers for Hidalgo County Facilities Management Department,, 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. Exemption from competitive bidding requirements, pursuant to Texas LGC 262.024(a)(1): an item that must be purchased in case of a public calamity if it is necessary to make the purchase promptly to relieve the necessity of the citizens; (2) an item necessary to preserve and protect the public health and safety of the citizens.
- C. Requesting approval to purchase Reme Halo & Ionizer in-duct air purifiers through Trane U.S. Inc. in the total amount of \$160,583.77

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval of the Reme Halos and Ionizer in-duct air purifiers purchase will allow the Hidalgo County Facilities Management Department to provide additional safety and air purifying measures at all Hidalgo County Facilities to continue the mitigation of the COVID-19 public health emergency. Recommending that Commissioners Court authorize the purchase for these items. Expenditures will be charged to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Relief Grant Fund and/or other grant assistance available to address the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Attachments:

- 1295 Form
- Tex. Loc. Gov. Code
- Agenda Item Briefing