



City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 25-2702, **Agenda Item #:** 9.

1/22/2026

Posting Language

Authorize a contract for construction services for the Austin Parks and Recreation Duct Bank Civil Work project for Austin Energy with HB Trenchless, LLC, in the amount of \$6,643,136, plus a \$664,314 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$7,307,450. Funding: \$7,307,450 is available in the Capital Budget of Austin Energy.

Lead Department

Austin Financial Services.

Managing Department

Austin Capital Delivery Services.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Capital Budget of Austin Energy.

Procurement Language:

Austin Financial Services issued an Invitation for Bids solicitation IFB 6100 CLMC1135 for these services. The solicitation was published on September 8, 2025, and closed on October 16, 2025. Of the four bids received, the bid submitted by the recommended contractor was the lowest responsive bid received. A complete solicitation package, including a tabulation of the bids received, is available for viewing on the City's website. This information can currently be found at

https://financeonline.austintexas.gov/afo/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=143115.

MBE / WBE:

This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9A (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 9.51% MBE and 2.45% WBE participation.

For More Information:

Direct questions regarding this Recommendation for Council Action to Austin Financial Services - Central Procurement at FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov or 512-974-2500. Respondents to the solicitation and their Agents should direct all questions to the Authorized Contact Person identified in the solicitation.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

January 12, 2026 - Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission on a 10-0-1 vote with Vice Chair White abstaining.

Additional Backup Information:

Due to growth in the Austin downtown network area, Austin Energy (AE) recently completed construction of a third network substation in the Rainey neighborhood. The Rainey Street Substation at East Avenue and River Street allows AE to provide continued reliability to existing customers and support future growth. The Austin

Parks and Recreation Duct Bank Civil Work project will enable AE to route circuits from the substation through parkland along the banks of Lady Bird Lake between Brazos Street and Trinity Street to the downtown network, ultimately allowing AE to serve network electrical loads south of the river.

The project includes the construction of approximately 1,003 linear feet of electrical duct bank, new electrical manholes, tie-ins to existing electrical circuits, water and wastewater improvements, along with landscaping, sidewalk, and pavement restoration. Approximately 800 linear feet of duct bank will be installed via micro-tunneling at a depth between 20-40 feet below ground level to avoid any surface disturbance or impacts to parkland trees. The remaining duct bank and manholes will be installed via open cut in the right-of-way at the Brazos Street cul-de-sac and in parkland on the north side of the Waller Creek Boathouse.

This item includes one allowance of \$25,000 to address contaminated soil or groundwater testing and removal. An allowance is an amount that is specified and included in the construction contract or specifications for a certain item of work when details are not determined at the time of bidding.

Due to the potential for unforeseen utility conflicts, a 10% contingency in funding has been included to allow for the expeditious processing of any change orders to cover any unforeseen construction costs associated with the project. By authorizing the additional contingency funding, Council is authorizing any change orders within the contingency amount.

This project proposes a temporary re-route of the Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike Trail during the construction of the duct bank. The contractor will install appropriate traffic detour signs and barricades to direct pedestrian and bicycle traffic and will work to ensure that the public and nearby businesses always have access to the trail and the boathouse. A planned temporary water service interruption will occur during the pipeline tie-in. Customers will be notified at least 48 hours in advance of any service interruptions. Austin Capital Delivery Services will communicate project updates to neighboring businesses and residents through mailings, social media outreach, press releases, and other channels to keep the public informed as the work progresses.

Without Council approval, Austin Energy will have limited options to serve the network area south of Lady Bird Lake from the Rainey Street Substation.

The contract allows 365 calendar days for completion of this project.

This project is located within zip code 78701 (District 9).