City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 24-6528, **Agenda Item #:** 43.   1/30/2025

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract for construction services for a job order assignment for the Palmer Events Center Catering Kitchen for Austin Convention Center Department with Brown & Root Industrial Services, LLC, for a total amount not to exceed $1,200,000. Funding: $1,200,000 is available in the Austin Convention Center's Capital Budget.

Lead Department

Financial Services Department.

Managing Department

Austin Convention Center Department.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Capital Budget of the Austin Convention Center Department.

Purchasing Language:

Job Order Assignment.

MBE / WBE:

This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9A (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) through the achievements of Good Faith Efforts with 35.16% MBE and 12.64% WBE participation.

Prior Council Action:

October 10, 2020 - Council approved a contract with Brown & Root Industrial Services, LLC, for job order contracting construction services for the 2020 Job Order Contract Program.

For More Information:

Direct questions regarding this Recommendation for Council Action to the Financial Services Department - Central Procurement at: FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov or 512-974-2500.

Additional Backup Information:

Since opening in 2002, the Palmer Events Center, has evolved from a business model of strictly hosting community based, local events, to a vibrant 365-day multipurpose venue accommodating national and international clients, and hosting highly economically impactful events to the destination for thousands of people. The venue offers 125,000 gross square feet of space, catering diverse events including but not limited to large scale conferences, trade shows, conventions, festivals, galas, banquets, corporate social functions, sporting events, community-based consumer shows and local, small business meetings.

The project scope includes:
- Renovating one under-utilized concession area designed over 22 years ago that is inefficient and limited, into a full-service concession market built in.

- Creating a new full-service concession market built-in area within existing operations space.
- Transition a warming kitchen that is currently supported by a full-service kitchen at the Austin Convention Center into a preparation kitchen to support client food services once the Austin Convention Center is closed.

Not approving this item will result in inadequate concession services potentially diminishing Palmer Events Center value and reputation to clients in the meeting and convention industry. Additionally, the department, through its food & beverage provider, would need to lease and operate from a ghost kitchen to adequately meet client food service needs once the Austin Convention Center is closed.

This project aligns with our mission to serve the local community while enhancing the overall event experience.

On October 10, 2020, Council approved a construction contract with Brown & Root Industrial Services, LLC, for job order contracting services as part of the 2020 Job Order Contract Program. According to state statute, the City must obtain approval from Council for any individual job order assignment that exceeds $500,000. This request is for the Council's authorization to negotiate and execute one Job Order Assignment under the 2020 Job Order Contract Program for an amount not to exceed $1,200,000., inclusive of contingency.

Job Order Contracting is a highly responsive contracting method that allows for services where the work is for indefinite time and indefinite quantities and where job order assignments are awarded substantially based on pre-described and pre-priced tasks. Work may consist of facility maintenance, repair, alteration, renovation, remediation, or minor construction of City facilities.

This project is located within zip code 78704 (District 9).