



City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 26-2156, **Agenda Item #:** 21.

8/27/2026

Posting Language

Authorize two contracts for engineering services and staff augmentation for the 2026 Engineering Services and Staff Augmentation for Electric Service Delivery Rotation List with HDR Engineering, Inc. and Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc., for up to five years for a total contract amount not to exceed \$105,000,000, divided among the firms. Funding: \$1,540,000 is available in the Capital Budget of Austin Energy. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Lead Department

Austin Financial Services.

Managing Department

Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Capital Budget of Austin Energy.

Procurement Language:

Austin Financial Services issued a Request for Qualifications solicitation RFQS 6100 CLMP390 for these services. The solicitation was issued on January 21, 2026, and closed on February 26, 2026. Of the 26 responses received, the recommended contractors submitted the best evaluated responsive qualifications. A complete solicitation package, including a log of offers 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=143322.

MBE / WBE:

These contracts will be awarded in compliance with the City Code Chapter 2-9A (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 5.92% MBE and 2.31% 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:

August 10, 2026- Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission on a 7-0 vote, with Commissioners Alvarez, Reed, and White absent, and one vacancy.

Additional Backup Information:

As a standard business practice, the City routinely engages the services of professional engineering firms to perform analysis, design, and support services associated with construction or improvement of City capital

assets. Rotation List contracting allows the City to have a group of qualified consultants available to perform a specific type of recurring work in a timely manner to meet the project and operational needs of the City.

Prior to issuance, this solicitation was reviewed by the City's Rotation List Advisory Committee comprised of staff from Austin Financial Services - Central Procurement, Capital Procurement, Austin Small and Minority Business Resources, Austin Transportation and Public Works, and other user departments. The total authorization amount, the number of firms to be recommended for selection, and the authorization amount per firm were discussed and reviewed by the Committee. Capital Procurement expects that user departments will require these services to meet current and future engineering and staff augmentation needs.

The selected firms will provide professional and technical consultation services for the Electric System Engineering and Technical Services group of Austin Energy. Services generally include producing turnkey projects and construction drawing packages, as well as providing engineering, permitting, technical and drafting personnel to augment Austin Energy staff.

Anticipated services include, but are not limited to:

- Transmission design
- Substation design
- Relay design
- Protection design
- Planning analysis
- Distribution design
- Equipment and materials analysis
- Construction materials testing, subsurface utility exploration and geotechnical engineering
- Civil engineering
- Permitting support
- Land surveying
- Right-of-way acquisition support

This Rotation List provides staff augmentation and specialized engineering services supporting Austin Energy's Electric System Resiliency Plan, Austin Energy's Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan to 2035, and Austin Energy's commitment to deliver reliable service while building a resilient, modern electric system serving Austin for generations.

This request authorizes contract development with each of the two recommended firms until financial authorization is expended. Initial project assignments will be based on the firm's final ranking as determined during the Request for Qualifications evaluation (highest to lowest), the maximum cumulative contracted amount in comparison to the estimated task budget for that firm, and the firm's qualifications and availability of expertise at time of project need. Per-firm authorizations may be increased or decreased, through the life of the contract, based on the needs of a particular assignment and will follow the established rotation list policies and procedures. If the City is unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory agreement with a recommended firm, if a selected firm ceases practice during the contract period, or if the City elects to terminate its agreement with one of the selected firms, the remaining assignments will be redistributed among the remaining firm for the duration of the contract period.

A delay in contract approval could create delays in building and maintaining critical infrastructure projects risking system reliability, and regulatory compliance.