



City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 26-2195, **Agenda Item #:** 38.

8/27/2026

Posting Language

Authorize a contract for the rental of anti-vehicle barriers used to enhance pedestrian safety during downtown activities, special events, and emergency operations, staff training, and associated services, for Austin Police with Meridian Rapid Defense Group LLC d/b/a Meridian Rapid Defense Group Sales, LLC, for an initial term of two years with up to three one-year extension options in an amount not to exceed \$1,750,000. Funding: \$29,167 is available in the Operating Budget of Austin Police. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Lead Department

Austin Financial Services.

Client Department(s)

Austin Police.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$29,167 is available in the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Operating Budget of Austin Police.

Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Procurement Language:

Sole Source.

MBE/WBE:

Sole source contracts are exempt from the City Code Chapter 2-9B (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program); therefore, no subcontracting goals were established.

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.

Additional Backup Information:

The contract is for the rental of Archer 1200 anti-vehicle mobile barriers and deployment training for the barriers used by Austin Police to enhance pedestrian safety during downtown activities, special events, and emergency operations. These temporary, portable barriers are designed to protect people and critical infrastructure by stopping unauthorized vehicle access.

These crash-tested systems are designed to provide protection against vehicle-based threats. They have been rigorously tested and certified to the highest international standards for vehicle security and roadway safety, including US Department of Homeland Security SAFETY Act certification. The barriers can be rapidly deployed, making them suitable for temporary set-ups on various types of terrain.

Meridian is the manufacturer and sole distributor of Archer 1200 barriers and associated equipment. No other

vendor sells or rents this equipment or provides training on its proper use and deployment. Austin Police already utilizes these barriers, and any additional barriers or equipment purchased or rented must match those in the City's inventory. Furthermore, these barriers must be deployed by Meridian personnel or City staff that have completed Meridian's training for Safety, Use, and Certified Deployments.

A delay in contract approval could impact the City's ability to rapidly deploy barriers for special events, outside of normal anti-vehicle mobile barrier needs.

Contract Details:		
Contract Term	Length of Term	Contract Authorization
Initial Term	2 years	\$700,000
Optional Extension 1	1 year	\$350,000
Optional Extension 2	1 year	\$350,000
Optional Extension 3	1 year	\$350,000
Total	5 years	\$1,750,000

Note: Contract Authorization amounts are based on the City's estimated annual usage.