



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 7

Agenda Date: December 7, 2023

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Finance Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Troy Elliott

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Purchase of Computer Room Air Conditioning (CRAC) Units for the COSA Data Center

SUMMARY:

An ordinance authorizing a contract with Bud Griffin & Associates - San Antonio LLC in the amount of \$997,924.98, to purchase the equipment to replace end of life computer room air conditioning (CRAC) units located within the City of San Antonio (COSA) Data Center. Funding for this contract, in the amount of \$997,924.98 is available from Tax Notes and included in the FY 2024 - FY 2029 Capital Improvement Program.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In late 2022, the Information Technology Services Department (ITSD) began working with the Public Works Department (PWD) to identify a Job Order Contract (JOC) vendor for the replacement of CRAC units within the COSA Data Center. In consideration of lead times to manufacture the CRAC units, ITSD and PWD determined that it would be beneficial to purchase the units independently and have them installed by the JOC vendor. This would realize a significant cost savings.

The COSA Data Center serves as a redundant data center. There are currently four (4) Liebert, water-cooled units that are encroaching on their life span of twenty (20) years. There have been several noted failures of the chilled water systems that have driven temperatures well above the acceptable range for the safe operation of the City's data infrastructure.

The COSA Data Center will serve as the City's solely owned Data Center. As part of this transformation, there have been a significant amount of design and engineering services to plan for and provide a more robust and dedicated cooling system. These designs call for minimal interruption and intrusion to the building with the eventual replacement of the four (4) water cooled units with seven (7) dual cooled (air and water) units. Additionally, ITSD will also replace two (2) CRAC units within rooms that house the uninterruptible power supply equipment.

The City issued a Request for Offer (RFO) for "ITSD – Compressor & Condenser Computer Room Air Conditioner (CRAC) Units" (RFO 6100017200) on September 13, 2023, with a submission deadline of September 27, 2023. The RFO was advertised in the HartBeat, TVSA channel, the City's Bidding & Contracting Opportunities website, the San Antonio e-Procurement System and an email notification was released to a list of potential Respondents. Two proposals were received. Bud Griffin & Associates - San Antonio LLC is recommended for contract award based on the published specifications.

This purchase was made citing a public health or safety exemption for sole brand, according to the provisions of Texas Statutes Local Government Code 252.022.02. The Liebert brand CRAC units are required to replace existing Liebert CRAC units to be consistent with the engineering design.

ISSUE:

This contract will provide nine (9) dual cooled (air and water) units for the COSA Data Center. This City Council action will authorize a contract with Bud Griffin & Associates - San Antonio LLC in the amount of \$997,924.98, to purchase the equipment to replace end of life CRAC units located within the COSA Data Center. A JOC vendor will install the new units once received by the City.

The Small Business Economic Development Advocacy (SBEDA) Ordinance requirements were waived due to the lack of small, minority, and/or women businesses available to provide these goods and services.

The Veteran-Owned Small Business Preference Program does not apply to goods/supplies contracts, so no preference was applied to this contract.

ALTERNATIVES:

As an alternative, ITSD could have delayed this necessary purchase of the replacement equipment and issued a competitive solicitation for any brand; however, this delay could have caused significant stress to a system that is at its end of life. It is possible that the sole cooling system that

supports critical public safety infrastructure and programs, SAP, FileNet, and additional software/data interfaces required for interacting and serving the City's residents, would continue to be compromised.

FISCAL IMPACT:

An ordinance authorizing a contract with Bud Griffin & Associates - San Antonio LLC in the amount of \$997,924.98, to replace end of life computer room air conditioning (CRAC) units located within the COSA Data Center. Funding for this contract, in the amount of \$997,924.98 is available from Tax Notes and included in the FY 2024 - FY 2029 Capital Improvement Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of a contract with Bud Griffin & Associates – San Antonio LLC in the amount of \$997,924.98, to purchase the equipment to replace end of life CRAC units located within the COSA Data Center.

This contract was procured on the basis of a Public Health and Safety Exemption and a Contracts Disclosure form is not required.