

E Environment Committee

Meeting date: January 9, 2007

For the Metropolitan Council Meeting on January 24, 2007

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: January 2, 2007

Subject: Authorization to Negotiate and Execute Contract for Professional Geotechnical and Testing Services with STS Consultants

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Policy 3-3, Expenditures

Staff Prepared/Presented: Bryce Pickart, 651-602-1091

Division/Department: MCES c/o William G. Moore, 651-602-1162

Proposed Action/Motion

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a contract for professional geotechnical and testing services with STS Consultants in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.

Issue(s)

- Professional services contracts with an amount exceeding \$250,000 require Metropolitan Council authorization.

Overview and Funding

MCES utilizes professional/technical services on its capital improvement projects during the planning, design, and construction phases in several areas of expertise, including geotechnical investigations (soil borings, soil testing, and analysis), construction compliance testing (soil, concrete, asphalt, masonry, steel, piling), environmental assessments and investigations, hydrogeological evaluations, and material testing services. This business item is one of three which recommend contract awards to three local firms who provide these services, and who have provided these services on MCES capital projects.

A Request for Proposals was issued for these services. Four proposals were received. The evaluation committee concluded that one proposer has a smaller range of service capabilities than the other three firms, and should not be considered further. The evaluation committee recommends awarding four-year contracts to three firms, Braun Intertec, American Engineering Testing (AET), and STS Consultants. Each firm has a local office with soil drilling rigs, construction compliance testing personnel and broad range of environmental, geotechnical, and materials testing capabilities. Each firm has provided high quality services on MCES projects.

These contracts are cost reimbursement type contracts and utilize project specific work task orders to authorize work. Three contracts are recommended to provide flexibility in scheduling work, to take advantage of a firm's special knowledge and/or capabilities, and to avoid potential conflict of interest, since construction contractors also hire these firms to fulfill their contractual testing and quality assurance requirements.

Funding is provided by the MCES Capital Program.