BOARD MEETING DATE: January 6, 2017 AGENDA NO. 2

PROPOSAL: Authorize Purchase of Core Network Upgrade

SYNOPSIS: On October 7, 2016, the Board approved the release of an RFQ to select a vendor capable of providing core network upgrade equipment and services for the Diamond Bar Headquarters. Eight companies responded to this RFQ. Epoch Universal was identified as the most capable vendor to provide these products and services with the most cost advantage to the SCAQMD. This action is to approve the purchase of the core network equipment and services from Epoch Universal. Funds ($217,109) for this purchase are available in the FY 2016-17 Budget.

COMMITTEE: Administrative, December 9, 2016; Recommended for Approval

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Authorize the Procurement Manager to purchase core network equipment and services from Epoch Universal in the amount of $217,109. Funds are available in Information Management's FY 2016-17 Budget.

Wayne Nastri
Executive Officer

CJM:MH:HJ:cj

Background

On October 7, 2016, SCAQMD released RFQ #Q2017-02 for core network upgrade. The purpose of this RFQ was to invite eligible vendors to submit quotations for core network equipment, configuration/installation and maintenance service. This core network equipment is the center of the agency's local and wide area networks. The existing core network equipment is antiquated and near the end of its useful life. The upgraded core network equipment will provide enhanced network capabilities, including improved bandwidth, latency, and fault tolerance. The RFQ sought to obtain core network equipment and services from a vendor who was the most qualified and cost-effective to the SCAQMD.

Outreach
In accordance with SCAQMD's Procurement Policy and Procedure, a public notice advertising the RFQ and inviting bids was published in the Los Angeles Times, the Orange County Register, the San Bernardino Sun, and Riverside County's Press Enterprise newspapers to leverage the most cost-effective method of outreach to the South Coast Basin.

Additionally, potential bidders may have been notified utilizing SCAQMD's own electronic listing of certified minority vendors. Notice of the RFQ was emailed to the Black and Latino Legislative Caucuses and various minority chambers of commerce and business associations, and placed on the Internet at SCAQMD's website (http://www.aqmd.gov).

Bid Evaluation
Sixty copies of the RFQ were mailed out and eight vendors responded when final bidding closed at 4:00 p.m. on November 8, 2016. Of the eight responses, one was a women-owned business enterprise; three were small business enterprises; two were local business enterprises, and three offered most favored customer pricing status. All eight bids met the minimum requirements specified in the RFQ.

The Attachment reflects the evaluation of the bids, the respective ratings and costs. The RFQ #Q2017-02 listed one item with a variable quantity from one to four. Staff recommends that the item (part number N77-F348XP-23) be purchased in quantity of three to fulfill current and future SCAQMD network requirements. Of the responsive bids, the lowest preference percentage adjusted bid was from Epoch Universal. Staff recommends that the Board authorize the purchase of network core equipment and services from the highest-rated bidder, Epoch Universal.

Panel Composition
The evaluation panel consisted of five staff from Information Management: a Systems and Programming Supervisor, a Telecommunication Supervisor, and three Telecommunication Technicians II. Of the five panelists, three are Asian-Pacific Islander, one is Caucasian, and one is Hispanic; four are male and one is female.

Resource Impacts
Sufficient funds are allocated in Information Management's FY 2016-17 Budget.

Attachment
Evaluation of Bids for Core Network Upgrade

Attachment
RFQ #Q2017-02
Evaluation of Bids for Core Network Upgrade

Vendor	EPOCH	HELIXSTORM	GIGAKOM	PCMG	NETXPERTS	SIGMANET	NIC	CROSSTOWN
Total Bid Amount with tax	$217,109	$245,904	$254,966	$258,782	$263,393	$267,693	$272,691	$426,553
Minority Owned Business	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Woman Owned Business	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Small Business (5%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
***DVBE or DBVBE Joint Venture (5%)**	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Low Emission Vehicle Business (5%)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Local Business (2%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Off Peak Hours Delivery Business (2%)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Most Favored Customer Pricing Status (2%)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Total Preference (%15 Maximum)	9%	7%	7%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%
Total Bid Amount with Preference	$197,569	$228,691	$237,118	$258,782	$263,393	$267,693	$267,237	$418,022

* DVBE - disabled veteran-owned business enterprise.