

Internal M/WBE Waiver Request Form

Date: March 19, 2019

Department: Water Resources (Water Supply Division)

Contact Name & Phone: Dell Harney (Water Supply manager) 336-373-7900 desk 336-430-6240 cell

Contract Name and Number (if applicable): Water Resources CIP Project #388 (funding: 501.7025.01.5413)

A waiver of the M/WBE participation requirement may be requested by the Originating Department at least 5 business days prior to advertisement or solicitation. In detail below, please explain your reason for requesting a waiver (attach RFP & supporting documentation as necessary).

Final approval of the request will be made by the City Manager's Office.

This waiver is being requested pursuant to sole sourcing of a water-quality/contaminant-alert monitoring system for the Townsend Water Treatment Plant raw water intake. The City has found only one supplier, Xylem YSI, that meets our requirements for an autonomous solar-powered solution that is able to measure, monitor and report the needed water quality parameters for multiple depths. The Xylem YSI solution is only available as a turn-key package that includes:

- * Underwater diving work
- * System startup and integration with Water Supply's SCADA system
- * All hardware including a redundant instrument package for reliability and calibration purposes
- * Six months of system maintenance/training designed to turn the system over to our Water Supply and Storm Water techs
- * Software for data interpretation and early-alert capabilities

The turn-key services included in the Xylem YSI proposal may tend to limit opportunities for MWBE firm participation in this work. I have personally asked Xylem YSI to explore ways for MWBE participation. The company was very cooperative and told me that there is an opportunity for underwater (diving) work that is typically sourced locally for this type installation. I spoke to Gwendolyn Carter who did not have a recommendation for local firms that perform this type work. Water Supply Division has been and continues to be a Champion for MWBE participation in our projects and regular work.

SYSTEM DESCRIPTION:

The system is comprised of a floating pontoon anchored to the Townsend lake bed in such a way that it continuously samples and reports water quality parameters from waters immediately adjacent to the treatment plant intake. The system is designed both to optimize treatment processes for the Townsend Water Treatment Plant in response to raw water changes and to provide early warning of contamination events so that actions can be initiated to protect the public water supply.

An on board programmable controller periodically changes the depth of an instrumentation package to check water quality parameters at the same elevations as the Treatment Plant intake gates. A vertical water quality profile for eleven parameters is stored and transmitted from the autonomous station via cellular communications to Treatment Plant operations and management personnel. A 4-mile range LED beacon and radar reflectors are designed to provide collision avoidance with surface craft.

Since petroleum product pipelines cross the southern end of Lake Townsend and also because of the close proximity of a marina, one of the monitored parameters is derived from a hydrocarbon analyzer that has been integrated into the contaminant-alert system. Other sensors monitor for rapidly forming algae blooms which are sources of cyanotoxins, taste/odor issues and other problems that are detrimental to treatment plant processes. More traditional measurements such as pH, Conductivity, ORP, Dissolved Oxygen and Turbidity are used both as early warning systems and as a means to log environmental conditions which, when interpreted via the supplied software programs, will allow Water Supply and Storm Water professionals to better understand the ecology of our lakes and watershed. Interpretation of the data will lead to insight/awareness of long term threats to the public water supply as well as fate and transport models that are better able to predict the spread of contaminants within the drinking source-water system. A copy of the proposal for work has been submitted along with this application.

Dell Harney

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This section is for M/WBE Office use only

Contact Name & Phone Number: Kirim McGee 373-7747

☒ The M/WBE Office supports the waiver request. Please submit any comments below.

1. The extraordinary and necessary requirements of the contract render application of the Program Elements infeasible or impractical. **Please explain in detail. (Attach supporting documentation as necessary)**

2. The nature of the goods or services being procured are excluded from the scope of this Program Plan.

Please check one of the exclusions below: (Attach supporting documentation as necessary)

- ☐ Contracts that are subject to the U.S. Department of Transportation Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program;
- ☒ Sole Source: the required supplies or services are available from one responsible source
- ☐ Contracts for electricity or water and sewage services from a municipal utility district or governmental agency;
- ☐ Emergency contracts for goods or supplies;
- ☐ Contracts for the City's lease or purchase of real property where City is lessee or purchaser; and

3. Sufficient qualified M/WBEs providing the goods or services required by the contract are unavailable in the Relevant Market area of the project despite every reasonable attempt to locate them. **Please explain in detail the reason for the request: (Attach RFP & supporting documentation as necessary)**

There are no M/WBE firms available to provide this service in the Greensboro MSA despite every reasonable attempt to locate them.

☐ The M/WBE Office does not support the waiver request. Please explain in detail the reason for not supporting the request: (Attach supporting documentation as necessary)

Kirim mcGee

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This section is for CMO Office use only

Contact Name: *Barbara Harris*

☒ The CMO Office approves the waiver request

☐ The CMO Office does not approve the waiver request.