

Agenda Report

DATE: November 14, 2005

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH Nth
GENERATION, INC. FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ELECTRONIC
DATA STORAGE

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Nth Generation Computing, Inc. for the purchase and implementation of electronic data storage in an amount not to exceed \$213,876.

BACKGROUND

Information Technology Services Division (ITSD) has identified the need to replace the City's existing storage and backup systems due to capacity and additional functional requirements necessary to meet existing and future demands. Included in this replacement plan is the integration of available new technology to assist in management of the City's growing electronic data storage demand in a more cost effective manner.

It was the intention of ITSD to issue a single Request for Proposals for acquisition of both electronic data storage and backup systems. However, critical technical problems with the City's original backup system prompted the City Council to enter into a contract with Nth Generation Computing on August 15, 2005, to provide the backup solution. A Request for Proposals was issued on October 3, 2005, to address replacement of electronic data storage.

The solution specified in the RFP has two main components: 1) The Storage Area Network (SAN) and 2) a data archival system, also know as Information Lifecycle Management (ILM).

Several significant benefits are expected to be realized from the proposed electronic data storage solution:

- This solution enables the City to employ a single solution for all of the City's storage needs rather than purchasing separate storage for each new future project.
- Replacement of the current SAN will eliminate its restricted growth capacity and provide the City with the means to readily address future storage demands.
- ILM will allow the City to manage the costs associated with the growing demand for IT storage by archiving the largest file usage to the lower cost hardware.
- Our existing SAN is reaching the end of its expected life cycle. Installing a replacement within the recommended timeline will allow the City to migrate storage to the replacement SAN before support expires on the existing SAN.
- Training and support costs will be reduced with a single storage solution.
- This solution provides the capability to immediately address e-mail and storage compliance requirements from the City Attorney and Human Resources.

The City received one response to the RFP. A panel consisting of staff members from ITSD reviewed the proposal. After each panel member scored the proposal, ratings were averaged to arrive at the final score. It was the panel's unanimous conclusion that Nth Generation Computing is highly qualified to meet the City's needs. ITSD staff conducted research on electronic data storage alternatives prior to issuance of the RFP. Product and pricing information was collected from several sources: Demonstrations at trade conferences, recommendations in trade journals and reference materials located on vendor Web sites. This research indicated that comparable storage products would cost significantly more than the proposed contract amount.

The proposal was scored on: technical merit and completeness of proposed solution; price; local business preference; and small or micro-business preference. The proposer and total score appear below. Details of the assigned rating are provided in Attachment 1.

Proposer	Total Score (out of 100)
Nth Generation Computing	70.0

The proposed contract is in the amount of \$213,876. The contract cost includes: \$159,885 for the SAN replacement and \$53,991 for the ILM solution. The contract provides all of the required software, services and training for installation, as well as 5 years of support for equipment and software.

The contract to provide these information technology services fully complies with the Competitive Bidding and Purchasing Ordinance. Nth Generation estimates that installation will be completed approximately twelve weeks from the start of service.

FISCAL IMPACT

Sufficient funds are available in the capital improvement budget, project number 71127.

Respectfully submitted,


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

Prepared by:



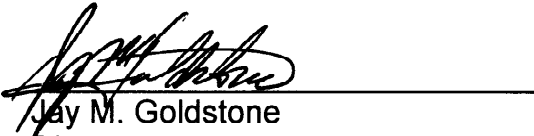
Randall E. Hendon
IT Analyst III, Project Manager
ITSD, Finance Department

Reviewed by:



John R. Pratt
Chief Information Technology Officer
ITSD, Finance Department

Approved by:



Jay M. Goldstone
Director
Finance Department

ATTACHMENT 1

**STORAGE SOLUTION PROPOSAL SCORES
(AVERAGE OF INDIVIDUAL PANELIST RATINGS)**

Proposer	Technical Merit and Completeness of Proposed Solution (65 points possible)	Price (25 points possible)	Local Pasadena Business (5 points possible)	Small or Micro- Business (5 points possible)	Total Score
Nth Generation Computing	55.0	15.0	0	0	70.0

