



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of BIS

Date January 23, 2012

To: The Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair, Ways and Means Committee

Subject: Execute Contract with B2Gnow/AskReply, Inc.

Recommendation: Authorize proper City officials to execute a 3 year contract not to exceed \$150,000 with B2Gnow/AskReply, Inc. for software, licensing and support for the Civil Rights Department contract compliance data management system.

Prepared by Elise Ebhardt, BIS Interagency Coordinator, 612-673-2026

Submitted by Otto Doll _____, 673-3633
Chief Information Officer

Approved by Steven Bosacker _____
City Coordinator

Presenter in Committee Otto Doll

Policy Review Group X Not Applicable

Permanent Review Committee (PRC) X Approved 12/15/11

Prior Related Directives:

Financial Impact: None. No additional appropriation is required.

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- No financial impact (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- Other financial impact (Explain):
- Request provided to department's finance contact prior to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information

In 2009, the Civil Rights Department and Business Information Services (BIS) worked together to research options for a new contract compliance data management system to replace the outdated Watson Access database. The B2Gnow system was selected and a standard agreement was issued in 2010 to implement the system.

B2Gnow is a web-based system for managing diversity-based contracting and certification. Civil Rights staff use the system to track, certify, and audit construction, procurement and professional service contracts, and to track the City's supplier diversity efforts. Contractors are able to input and manage contract information directly through web-based forms which streamlines the data entry process and increases the accuracy and currency of data. The system also integrates with the City's financial system and provides customized reporting options.

Civil Rights and BIS would like to continue using the B2Gnow system and are requesting approval to establish a three year contract with B2Gnow/AskReply, Inc. not to exceed a total of \$150,000. While the contract pricing is currently \$34,050 per year, the cost could increase based on the City's usage. The contract covers expenses for the hosted software, licensing, and technical support services.

The City's Permanent Review Committee reviewed and approved this request at their December 15, 2011 meeting.

Request for Approval

BIS is requesting authorization for the proper City officials to execute a contract with B2Gnow/AskReply, Inc. not to exceed \$150,000 for a period of three years, through 2014, to provide hosted software, licensing and support for the Civil Rights contract compliance management system.

Funding for the contract is covered by the Civil Rights Department. No additional appropriation is required.