

Department of Veterans Affairs

Justification and Approval for Other than Full and Open Competition

FAR 6.302-5 – Authorized or Required by Statute

1. Identification of the Contracting Activity and the Requiring Agency: Construction and Facilities Management (CFM) – Eastern Region, Silver Spring, MD.

2. Nature/Description of Action: A new Firm-Fixed Price contract awarded on a sole source basis to a Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB), American Artisans Group LLC. American Artisans Group LLC has an approved North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) of 238210, Electrical Contractors and Other Wiring Installation Contractors, with the size standard of \$14 Million average annual gross, registered and certified in VetBiz.gov database.

3. Description of Supplies and Services: Electrical Relocation, Phase 2A at the VA Manhattan Medical Center, NY.

This project includes the replacement of essential electrical systems in Buildings 2 and 3 at VAMC Manhattan including the 4160 volt ground level transformer with a new transformer, main distribution panel and 208Y/120 volt switchgear at the 2nd floor of Building 3 and distribution branch circuit panel boards. All essential electrical equipment that was prone to damage by flooding on the ground floor shall be relocated to the second floor of Building 3 and to the first floor of Building 2. Careful phasing of interconnections will be required to minimize disruptions to the medical center. The estimated price of this action is \$900,000.00. The period of performance is 210 calendar days.

4. Authority Cited: The statutory authority for this action is FAR 6.302-5(b)(6), Sole source awards under the Veterans Benefits Act of 2003 (15 U.S.C. 657f).

5. Reason for Authority Cited: VAAR 819.7007 Sole source awards to service-disabled veteran-owned small business concerns and VA Procurement Policy Memorandum (PPM) (2013-01).

(a) A contracting officer may award contracts to SDVOSB concerns on a sole source basis provided:

- (1) The anticipated award price of the contract (including options) will not exceed \$5 million;
- (2) The requirement is synopsisized in accordance with FAR part 5;
- (3) The SDVOSB concern has been determined to be a responsible contractor with respect to performance; and
- (4) Award can be made at a fair and reasonable price.

(b) The contracting officer's determination whether to make a sole source award is a business decision wholly within the discretion of the contracting officer. A determination that only one SDVOSB concern is available to meet the requirement is not required.

(c) When conducting a SDVOSB sole source acquisition, the contracting officer shall ensure businesses are registered and verified as eligible in the VIP database prior to making an award.

Justification and Approval Electrical Relocation, Phase 2A at the VA Manhattan Medical Center, NY

6. Efforts to Obtain Competition: On March 5, 2014 Sources Sought number VA101-14-I-0103 was posted on the Government Point of Entry, Federal Business Opportunities <http://www.fbo.gov> for 15 days in an effort to obtain additional SDVOSB concerns. An email containing the link to the sources sought was sent to contractors listed in VetBiz and the Dynamic Small Business Search under NAICS code 238210 located in New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey informing them of the new Sources Sought posted to FedBizOpps. In accordance with VAAR 819.7007(2) this requirement will be synopsized.

7. Determination of Fair and Reasonable Price: The Contracting Officer shall deem the anticipated cost as fair and reasonable under FAR 15.

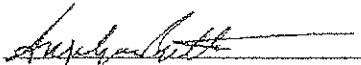
8. Market Research: Safety Consulting & Compliance Corp. (SCC) and American Artisans Group LLC were the vendors that responded to the Sources Sought number VA101-14-I-0103. While both companies responded to the Sources Sought, only American Artisans Group LLC is capable of meeting the potential bondable and required experience of performing Phase 2A Electrical Relocation. American Artisans LLC demonstrated experience working in New York City, experience with renovations, working at VA hospitals, and on federal contracts. American Artisans LLC provided proof of their ability to obtain bonding and demonstrated experience with projects of similar magnitude. A query of Past Performance Information Retrieval System (PPIRS) found American Artisans LLC to have outstanding overall past performance ratings for projects of similar magnitude. A query of FAPIIS found no objectable records and no exclusions. Safety Consulting & Compliance Corp. is a Veteran-Owned Small Business specializing in Safety and Risk Management. Safety Consulting & Compliance Corp. does not meet the required NAICS of 238210 for this requirement. Safety Consulting & Compliance Corp. does not have experience with renovations, experience working at VA hospitals. Safety Consulting & Compliance Corp. has not provided proof of their ability to obtain bonding, and did not demonstrate experience with projects of similar magnitude. A query of Past Performance Information Retrieval System (PPIRS) found no past performance information in the system for Safety Consulting & Compliance Corp. A query of FAPIIS found no objectable records and no exclusions.

9. Other Facts: No relevant procurement history exists for this item at the VA Manhattan Medical Center, NY,

10. Interested Sources: The interested sources are Safety Consulting & Compliance Corp. and American Artisans Group LLC.

11. A Statement of the Actions, if any, the Agency May Take to remove or Overcome Any Barriers to Competition before Any Subsequent Acquisition is required: N/A

12. As the Contracting Officer for this action, I certify that this justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.



Angeleque Batkins
Contracting Officer

April 30, 2014

Date

Justification and Approval Electrical Relocation, Phase 2A at the VA Manhattan Medical Center, NY

APPROVAL:



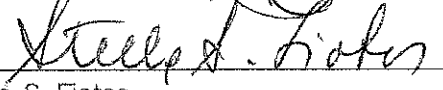
Janice Speth
Director, Acquisition Support Eastern Region
Office of Construction & Facilities Management

5.1.14
Date



George L. Szwarcman
Associate Executive Director,
Office of Facilities Acquisition

5/20/14
Date



Stella S. Fiotes
Executive Director,
Office of Construction & Facilities Management

5-20-14
Date