ISSUING DEPARTMENT INPUT DOCUMENT CONTRACT/PROJECT MEASURE ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION

□ <u>New</u> □ <u>OT</u>	<u>R</u> <u>S</u>	ole Source	✓ I	Bid Waiver	Emerge	ency	1	ontrac	t/Project No.
<u>Contract</u>							None		
\square <u>Re-Bid</u> \square <u>Oth</u>	ner –				LIV	ING WAG	E APPLIES:	YE	s 🔽 NO
Requisition No./Proje	ect No.: E	3W-10340			TERM O	F CONTRAC	T 5 YEA	R(S) Wľ	TH 0 YEAR(S) OTR
Requisition /Project 7	Title: Aut	ism Center (Certific	cation for Pa	arks, Recreat	ion and C	pen Spaces	s (PRO	DS)
Description: The pu	rpose of th	e purchase	is to ol	otain the Au	tism Center (Certificatio	on for PRC	S	
Issuing Department:	PROS			Contact Pers	on: Fernand	do L Robi	reno F	hone:	305-270-2984
Estimate Cost/Value:	\$119,255	5			GENE	RAL	FEDER	AL.	OTHER
			F	Sunding Sou	37				
Funding Source: X ANALYSIS									
Commodity Codes	99068	3	9487	76	94848		92416		541720
	<u> </u>				revious purchas				
			if this		ract/purchase w	ith no previ 2 ND YEAI			3 RD YEAR
Contractor:		<u></u>					<u>.</u>		<u>5 12AK</u>
Contractor.									
Small Business Ent	erprise:								
Contract Value:									
Comments:									
Continued on another page (s): \Box YES \bigtriangledown NO									
RECOMMENDATIONS									
		Set-Aside		Subcontr	actor Goal	Bid	Preference		Selection Factor
SBE									
Basis of Recommendation:									
Signed:				Date sent to	Date sent to SBD:				
0					I				

Date returned to SPD:	
	Rev. 072518

MARKET RESEARCH

Contract No.: BW-TBD	Recommendation:
Title: Autism Center Certification for Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (PROS)	Exercise Option to Renew (OTR) Non-Competitive Acquisition
Procurement Contracting Officer/Associate: Cheryl Page	 ☐ Solicit Competition ☐ Access Contract ☐ Other
NIGP Code: 47549, 541720, 92416, 92435, 94848, 94876 and 99068	

Background:

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), about 1 in 44 children have been identified with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and the states with the greatest estimated number of adults living with ASD include California, Texas, New York, and Florida. It is reported that 1 in 45 adults have autism in the United States. In 2020-2021 Miami-Dade County Public Schools (MDCPS) reported a total of 39,413 students with disabilities receiving Exceptional Student Education Services with autism being the fastest-growing exceptionality. ASD is reported to occur in all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups.

By becoming Autism Center certified, PROS will stand out as a leader in the industry and will gain recognition for efforts in adaptive recreation programs and training. Upon certification PROS will become the Third Parks and Recreation Department Nationwide to complete the certification, the first on the East Coast, and the largest Parks and Recreation department to obtain the certification. Other certified Parks and Recreation agencies in the United States include Gilbert Parks and Recreation (AZ), Mesa Parks and Recreation (AZ), and Town of Queen Creek Parks and Recreation (AZ) United States.

Objectives and Outcomes

The purpose of the purchase is to obtain the Autism Center certification for PROS. PROS has more than 280 recreational facilities that provide outstanding programming to more than 2.5 million residents and visitors. The Autism Center certification should be aligned with the PROS value of Inclusiveness and Accessibility.

- M-D PROS provides parks, facilities, and programs that are inclusive of the diverse residents of our community and are accessible to those with disabilities.
- The Autism Center Certification will further prepare the organization to meet the needs of residents in our community with neurodiversity.
 To obtain the Autism Center certification the International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES) requires that eighty percent of guest-facing employees' complete position-specific, customized training.
- The Certified Autism Center (CAC) certification should equip organizations with a deeper understanding of autism and how it works along with the latest research and a plethora of strategies they can implement in their facilities immediately so they can accommodate guests with autism.
- The Certified organizations shall be listed in the Autism Travel Directory, a travel destinations resource in which families have access to Certified Autism Travel Professionals.

The County does not have an active contract for this type of service. PROS is allocating \$119,225 for this project.

Research:

Market research was conducted to identify potential proposers and to locate similar contracts from other agencies. Searches conducted via BidSync, Google, GovWin and Tax Collector's search yielded zero potential bidders, and no applicable contracts that may be able to provide the required services. No SBE certified vendors were discovered. The internet search specific to Autism certification resulted in only IBCCES offering certification courses for autism. The potential bidders searched were identified through service category codes, 47549,

541720, 92416, 92435, 94848, 94876 and 99068, which are various behavioral health, healthcare and training codes and do not encompass the full scope of services.

Searches-d on Google, BidSync, GovWin and cooperative purchasing association websites identified several contracts and/or solicitations which provide Autism services to children and teachers, not training and certification for non-educational institutions personnel. They are:

Contract No.:BD-20-11031-BFH03-51653, for Early Intervention Autism, requested by Massachusetts Department of Public Health, this contract does not provide autism certification and training, it provides an intervention for persons with autism.

Contract No. ADED14-00003735, Professional Development for Academic Content and Supporters, solicited by Arizona Department of Education, this was for all Learners, with a component of relationship autism training for district and school personnel to examine practices that successfully promote collaborative teaming.

Contract No. BD-22-1026-DOE02-DOE01-67490, Identification & Support for Young Children with Autism, Malden, MA., Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, provides special education professional development on early identification and support for young children with autism.

The internet search located training program series; the Strategies for Teaching based on Autism Research (STAR) Program provides training to children with autism critical skills to align with educational standards. The Home Study Centre (HSC) offers a free online course for experienced teaching assistants providing a brief introduction, diagnosis and management of autism in children. After research we were unable to determine if this course is accredited in the United States as this course is UK based. Arizona State University offers autism certification in ASD which focuses on the unique attributes of ASD while providing a broad range of strategies for assisting autistic individuals.

Recommendation:

Based on the market research conducted and the urgent need for these services, it is recommended to proceed with the Bid Waiver to establish a contract for autism certification for PROS staff. Research shows that IBCCES sets the standards and requirements for autism training and certification. The contracts and/or course curriculums found did not fully align with the scope and services of Miami-Dade County for training and staff certification in autism. Since the County requires these services to accommodate and assist autism patrons IBCCES seem to be most available/reasonable option for these services.

Procurement Contracting Officer:_	Cheryl Page	Date:	06/14/2023
Procurement Contracting Manager		Date:	06/ 14 /2023