



Legislation Text

File #: 0250-2016, **Version:** 1

Background:

The Bureau of Workers Compensation (BWC) has steadfastly encouraged employers to invest toward the enhancement of occupational safety and health programs and initiatives. This legislation enables the City to do so. It clearly exhibits an ongoing effort to further promote workplace safety and efficient claims management. This contract allows the City to provide industrial hygiene and occupational safety services, as required by state and federal law. Since 2004, Safex Inc. has done an outstanding job of responding to the needs of the City's departments. Continuing the existing contractual relationship with Safex Inc. enables the administration to achieve its objective of improving the level of workplace safety and decreasing the risk of exposure to injury. This female owned business has helped the City in all aspects of industrial hygiene and occupational safety tasks in an efficient and cost effective manner.

Bid Information:

In 2015, the City performed a formal bid for industrial hygiene and occupational safety and health professional services. Solicitation #SA005658 was published on November 7, 2014 and bids were opened on November 26, 2014. All information was available on the City's vendor services website. Over twelve vendors were directly notified. Safex Inc. was the only vendor to submit a bid. The Department of Human Resources Occupational Safety and Health Program Manager worked with Safex, Inc. to develop a favorable agreement. As stated in the bid document, the contract term is for one-year, with the option to renew for four additional one-year periods. The contract shall run March 1, 2016 to February 28, 2017. This is year two of the five-year period.

Emergency action is requested in order that industrial hygiene services and safety program assistance may continue without disruption.

Fiscal Impact:

Funding is being provided from the 2016 employee benefit fund budget and is contingent on passage of Ordinance 2888-2015, the 2016 other funds appropriation legislation.

Safex Inc.'s contract compliance number is 311365251.

To authorize the Director of the Department of Human Resources to modify and extend the existing contract with Safex Inc. for the purpose of providing assistance as may be necessary in industrial hygiene services and occupational safety program assistance to all divisions; to authorize the expenditure of \$100,000.00 from the employee benefits fund; and to declare an emergency. (\$100,000.00)

WHEREAS, the city desires to continue to provide occupational safety and industrial hygiene services in an efficient, cost effective and consistent manner; and

WHEREAS, these services have assisted the city in decreasing the risk of exposure to workplace injuries; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City to modify and extend the contract with Safex Inc. to provide the aforementioned services from March 1, 2016 through February 28, 2017; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to authorize the expenditure of \$100,000.00, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to pay

contract costs for these services; and

WHEREAS, an emergency exists in the usual daily operation of the Department of Human Resources in that it is immediately necessary to modify and extend the contract with Safex Inc. so that the services may continue without interruption thereby preserving the public health, peace, property, safety and welfare; Now therefore;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

SECTION 1. That the Director of the Department of Human Resources is hereby authorized to modify and extend the contract with Safex Inc. to assist the City in providing occupational safety and industrial hygiene services, and safety program assistance to all divisions.

SECTION 2. That the expenditure of \$100,000.00, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby authorized in the Employee Benefits Fund 5502 in object class 03 Services, per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

SECTION 3. That the funds necessary to carry out the purpose of this ordinance are hereby deemed appropriated, and the City Auditor shall establish such accounting codes as necessary.

SECTION 4. That for the reasons stated in the preamble hereto, which is hereby made a part hereof, this ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor, or ten days after passage if the Mayor neither approves nor vetoes the same.