



Legislation Text

File #: 0082-2019, **Version:** 1

The Bureau of Workers Compensation (BWC) encourages employers to enhance occupational safety and health programs and initiatives. This legislation enables the city to do so and exhibits an ongoing effort to 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 city 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 and in the authorizing ordinance 0329-2015, the contract term is for one-year, with the option to renew for four additional one-year periods. This contract shall run March 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020. This is year five of the five-year extension period.

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

Fiscal Impact:

Funding for this contract totals \$100,000.00 and is budgeted specifically in the 2019 employee benefit fund budget and is contingent on passage of Ordinance 2871-2018, the 2019 other funds appropriation legislation.

Safex Inc.'s contract compliance number is 311365251.

To authorize the Human Resources Department Director to renew 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 renew and extend the contract with Safex Inc. to provide the aforementioned services from March 1, 2019 through February 29, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the original contract term was for one-year, with the option to renew for four additional one-year periods. As stated, this contract shall run March 1, 2019 to February 29, 2020. This is year five of the five-year period.

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 authorize the Director to enter into 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 enter into a 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.