



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 24-2102, **Version:** 1

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**Department:** Purchasing

**Department Head/Elected Official:** DeWight Dopslauf

**Regular or Supplemental RCA:** Regular RCA

**Type of Request:** Contract - Renewal

**Project ID** (if applicable): 200365

**Vendor/Entity Legal Name** (if applicable): The RAND Corporation d/b/a The RAND Policy Research Corporation

**MWDBE Contracted Goal** (if applicable): 0%

**MWDBE Current Participation** (if applicable): 0%

**Justification for 0% MWDBE Participation Goal:** 0% - Specialized, Technical, or Unique in Nature

**Request Summary (Agenda Caption):**

Request for approval of a renewal option with The RAND Corporation d/b/a The RAND Policy Research Corporation for consulting services regarding racial and ethnic disparity for the Office of County Administration for the period of September 9, 2024 - September 8, 2025 at a cost of \$284,447 (200365), Justification for 0% MWDBE Participation Goal: 0% - Specialized, Technical, or Unique in Nature.

**Background and Discussion:**

In November 2021, the Office of Justice and Safety (OJS) conducted an RFP and identified a vendor to complete a disparity study on the Harris County criminal justice system and its stakeholders. The Disparity Study will look at the key decision points of our justice system to understand if and to what extent disparities exist. Moreover, the vendor will identify root causes and provide County specific strategies to address existing inequalities. This item is jointly funded by OJS and through the Safety and Justice Challenge grant.

**Expected Impact:**

The findings of this study will be an asset to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and our constituents. Identifying areas of disparity and their root causes will inform decision-making on focusing, addressing, and mitigating inequalities by all stakeholders in the CJCC. Additionally, the disparity study will serve as an opportunity to center the impacted communities in our decision-making process.

**Alternative Options:**

Not complete the requested study. This option will reduce the likelihood of the County achieving the priority outcome of reducing racial and economic bias within the criminal justice system. It would leave approved grant funds unspent and risk losing them if another use for the funds could not be identified and approved.

**Alignment with Goal(s):**

- ☒ Justice and Safety  
☐ Economic Opportunity  
☐ Housing  
☐ Public Health  
☐ Transportation  
☐ Flooding  
☐ Environment  
☐ Governance and Customer Service

**Prior Court Action (if any):**

| Date       | Agenda Item # | Action Taken   |
|------------|---------------|--|
| 12/15/2020 | 23.d.1.n      | Request for approval of projects scheduled for advertisement             |
| 11/09/2021 | 175           | Approval of an award on the basis of best proposal meeting requirements. |
| 06/06/2023 | 263           | Execute 1 <sup>st</sup> amendment to agreement                           |
| 08/08/2023 | 243           | Approval of a renewal option (1 of 2)                                    |
| 12/19/2023 | 292           | Execute 2 <sup>nd</sup> amendment to agreement                           |

**Location:**

Address (if applicable): N/A

Precinct(s): Countywide

**Fiscal and Personnel Summary**

|              |                          |           |       |                    |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------|--------------------|
| Service Name |                          |           |       |                    |
|              | Current Fiscal Year Cost |           |       | Annual Fiscal Cost |
|              | Labor                    | Non-Labor | Total | Recurring Expenses |

**Funding Sources****Existing Budget**

|                      |    |    |    |    |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|
| Choose an item.      | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Choose an item.      | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Choose an item.      | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Total Current Budget | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |

**Additional Budget Request** (*Requires Fiscal Review Request Form*)

|                                 |           |           |           |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Choose an item.                 | \$        | \$        | \$        | \$        |
| Choose an item.                 | \$        | \$        | \$        | \$        |
| Choose an item.                 | \$        | \$        | \$        | \$        |
| Total Additional Budget Request | \$        | \$        | \$        | \$        |
| <b>Total Funding Request</b>    | <b>\$</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>\$</b> |

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Personnel</b> (Fill out section only if requesting new PCNs) |   |   |   |   |
| Current Position Count for Service                              | - | - | - | - |
| Additional Positions Request                                    | - | - | - | - |
| <b>Total Personnel</b>  | - | - | - | - |

**Anticipated Court Date:** 04/23/2024

**Anticipated Implementation Date (if different from Court date):** N/A

**Emergency/Disaster Recovery Note:** Not an emergency, disaster, or COVID-19 related item

**Contact(s) name, title, department:** Mike Giordanelli, Assistant Director of Operations, Office of County Administration; Jessica Barelvas, Senior Buyer, Purchasing

**Attachments** (if applicable): Letter