

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES**B. Finance, Audit and Facilities Committee****Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems Term Engineering and Professional Services Contract - Engineer****RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Finance, Audit and Facilities Committee that the President be delegated authority to award term agreements for engineering and professional services for fire protection sprinkler systems to FSi consulting engineers, subject to successful negotiation of the engineering and professional services agreements.

BACKGROUND:

Within the University Capital Safety Budget Request for 2007-2009, we anticipate various fire protection projects and studies that may develop into projects with a total project cost between \$400,000 and \$2,000,000. The total project value for the contract is estimated at \$4,000,000. The cumulative maximum total project value for all projects awarded under this contract is \$5,000,000.

The term contract will be for a two year period with an optional two year renewal, for a total term of four years. This is a change from past practice of awarding contracts for two years with a one year extension that was intended to provide a contract valid for projects initiated within one biennium. If the consultant performs well on work awarded during the first biennium then it is the intention of the Capital Projects Office to continue engineering services with the same consultant for a second biennium. It is anticipated that working with a consultant with successful recent experience in the design and delivery of projects for the University of Washington will result in the production of better design documents in a more timely fashion. It also assures that planning work initiated at the latter end of the first biennium can be executed by the same consultant in the second biennium.

In October 2008, the Capital Projects Office advertised for firms interested in providing engineering and professional services. Four firms responded to the Request for Qualifications, and three firms were interviewed on November 16 and 20. It is the interview team's recommendation that FSi consulting engineers be awarded a term agreement for engineering and professional services.

FSi consulting engineers is a mechanical engineering firm that provides mechanical and fire protection engineering design. FSi has provided services as a

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Finance, Audit and Facilities Committee

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sub-consultant on numerous projects at the University in the Mechanical Engineering Building, the Physics/Astronomy Building, Bagley Hall, Health Sciences, and other buildings. The firm has provided services as a prime consultant to the Boeing Company and to other public agencies in the Puget Sound area including Sound Transit/King County Metro Transit, Seattle Public Schools, Seattle Housing Authority, and various colleges and universities. It has been in business since 1985 and employs 12 people.

Funding for projects completed under these contracts will be from general safety funding through Environmental Health and Safety.