

**DETERMINATIONS AND FINDINGS  
FOR  
SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT**

**CAPTION:** Reserved Parking Spaces  
**PROGRAM AGENCY:** Office of the Attorney General  
Child Support Services Division  
**REQUISITION:** FY20 RK123166  
**PROPOSED CONTRACTOR:** U Street Parking, Inc.

**FINDINGS**

**1. AUTHORIZATION:**

D.C. Code §1-301.88b; 27 DCMR §§1800.6, 5022, 5032 and 5036

**2. MINIMUM NEED:**

The Office of the Attorney General, Child Support Services Division of the District of Columbia (OAG/CSSD) has a need for parking of six (6) District Government-owned vehicles at the garage operated by U Street Parking, located at One Judiciary Square, 441 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Washington, DC 20001 for Fiscal Year 2020.

**3. ESTIMATED REASONABLE PRICE:**

The estimated reasonable price for six (6) reserved parking spaces is \$1,800.00 per month (\$300.00 per vehicle) which equals \$21,600.00 for the entire fiscal year. The equivalent rate of approximately \$13.65 per day is fair and reasonable for reserved spaces based upon the market for garage parking in this area of the city.

**4. FACTS THAT JUSTIFY SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT:**

OAG/CSSD is the entity within the Government of the District of Columbia that administers the District's federally funded child support program. A child support program is referred to as a "IV-D" program because federal child support regulations are referenced in Sec. IV Part D of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 601 et seq.). Child support programs are administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration of Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE). As a requirement to receive federal funding, every child support agency in the country must meet OCSE mandated performance measures. There are five (5) performance measures OCSE measures annually based on the caseload of each IV-D program:

paternity establishment, percentage of cases under order, current collections, arrearage collections, and cost effectiveness. Successful service of process, which involves the delivery of writs, summons, and notices of hearings to persons being compelled to appear for a legal proceeding, plays a major role in the agency's ability to meet these performance measures.

OAG/CSSD is presently in possession of six (6) government issued vehicles that OAG/CSSD's staff utilizes on a daily basis to execute OAG/CSSD's responsibilities. These vehicles are primarily used by OAG/CSSD's investigators to perform service of process. For the past several years, these vehicles have been housed in reserved parking spaces in the garage at 441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001, which is the location of OAG/CSSD's office. Prior to parking the vehicles at this location, they were parked overnight at St Elizabeth's in Southeast DC, which meant that OAG/CSSD's investigators had to retrieve their vehicles in the mornings before reporting to OAG/CSSD's office to sign in and get assignments, and then return them to this location at the end of their shifts each day. This process proved to be very cumbersome and counterproductive to the operations and efficiency of OAG/CSSD's Locate Unit for the reasons set forth below.

First, investigators constantly complained about the parking situation around the building where OAG/CSSD's office is located. Like most District employees, the investigators are expected to work during core business hours, and they are required to report to the office in the mornings before serving their notices. The investigators only spend approximately 30 minutes in the office before leaving to serve notices, but when the vehicles were housed offsite, they typically spent long periods of time trying to find parking. We found that this was hindering their progress by decreasing the amount of time that they actually spent performing their core function of serving people. This also impeded their ability to return to the office during the day when the need arose.

Second, some of the investigators were abusing their use of the vehicles by failing to adhere to the policy and returning their vehicles to St. Elizabeth's at the end of their shifts. The government issued vehicles are to be used by the investigators solely for work related matters. The vehicles are not to be housed overnight at personal residences or driven during hours when the investigators are not performing their child support related responsibilities. In the event of investigators' absences from work due to scheduled leave or unexpected occurrences, their vehicles have to be accessible to other investigative staff to ensure that OAG/CSSD's operations are not hindered due to their absences.

Since OAG/CSSD started to utilize the garage in its building to park its vehicles, the Locate Unit manager has been able to more closely monitor the improper use of vehicles and to ensure that OAG/CSSD's operations are not negatively impacted by the lack of readily available vehicles during emergencies or unforeseen absences. This parking arrangement has also improved workers' efficiency and productivity, as they have been able to spend more time focusing on locating intended recipients and serving them, and thereby assisting OAG/CSSD to establish more paternities and to establish and enforce

more support orders. Such increases in paternity and support order establishments have enabled OAG/CSSD to avoid significant penalties that OAG/CSSD incurred in the past, as well as to receive much needed incentive dollars from the federal government.

**5. CERTIFICATION OF FINDINGS**

I have reviewed the above findings and certify that they are sufficient to justify the use of the sole source method of procurement under the cited authority. I certify that a notice of intent to award a sole source contract was published in accordance with 27 DCMR 5022 and that no response was received.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Agency Contracting Officer

**DETERMINATION**

Based upon the findings above, I hereby determine that the conditions in Section 404(a) of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Reform Act of 2010 (D.C. Law 18-371; D.C. Code § 2-354.04 (2011 Repl.)) are satisfied, there is only one available source for the required services. Therefore, I determine that the award of this small purchase on a sole source basis is justified.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janice Parker Watson  
Contracting Officer