



Thursday, February 15, 2007

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**Watershed Protection and Development Review
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

ITEM No 21

Subject Approve negotiation and execution of a 12-month supply agreement with The United States Department of the Interior, Geological Survey (USGS), Austin, Texas, for the provision of installing, rating, and maintaining 10 new stream flow monitoring stations in the Austin area, in an annual amount of \$304,250, with one 12-month extension option in the amount not to exceed \$139,000 per extension, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$443,250 00

Amount and Source of Funding Funding in the amount of \$443,250 is available in the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Capital Budget for the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department

Fiscal Note A fiscal note is attached

**Additional Backup
Material**

(click to open)

financial_information

For More Information Susan Janek, P E , 974-3327, Joan Esquivel, 974-3371

This contract includes the installation of 10 stream flow monitoring stations by the USGS in Austin watersheds. These 10 stream flow monitoring stations will provide the City with real time stream levels and flow rates. This will provide valuable information to both the Environmental Resource Management program for the assessment of water quality as well as the Flood Early Warning System (FEWS) for monitoring of flooding events plus calibration of floodplain models. The stream gauges will be placed in the following watersheds: Boggy Creek, Fort Branch, Williamson Creek, Kincheon Branch of Williamson Creek, West Bouldin Creek, Waller Creek, Little Walnut Creek, and Shoal Creek.

The United States Department of the Interior, Geological Survey, Texas Water Science Center will install the gauges. This contract allows for the development of the stream rating curve for both stream level and for flow. The rating information will be available both for very low flows (for the initial assessment of water quality) as well as for very high flows (for flood warning and model calibration). Once the gages are initially installed, the information will become publicly available through the USGS's internet site.

The USGS will install "peak stage recorders" at these locations to verify high water information in the event of a flood and will become part of the historical record on the particular watershed. This contract will also include the maintenance of the gage sites - required to keep them in working order as well as the communication components necessary to publicly publish the information on the public internet.

Since 1974, the City and the USGS have joined efforts to study and/or monitor the quantity and quality of water in local streams and lakes and in the Edwards Aquifer, providing a comprehensive database for urban hydrological studies used to protect the water quality/quantity conditions of the Austin area.

CIP BUDGET FISCAL NOTE

DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

15-Feb 07

WHERE ON AGENDA

DEPARTMENT

Watershed Protection & Development Review

Description Approve execution of a 12-month supply agreement with The United States Department of the Interior, Geological Survey (USGS), Austin, Texas for the provision of installing, rating, and maintaining ten (10) new stream flow monitoring stations in the Austin area, in an annual amount of \$304,250, with one (1) 12 month extension option in the amount not to exceed \$139,000 per extension, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$443 250 00

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Project Name	Fews Evaluations
Project Authorization	2006 2007 Amended Capital Budget
Funding Source	Drainage Utility Fund
Fund/Agency/Orgn	4850-6307-7101

Total Current Appropriation	\$492,797 00
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Unencumbered Balance	\$442 770 00
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Amount of this Action	<u>(\$442,770 00)</u>
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Remaining Balance	<u>\$0 00</u>
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Project Name	Stream Gauges
Project Authorization	2006-2007 Amended Capital Budget
Funding Source	Drainage Utility Fund
Fund/Agency/Orgn	4850 6307-7005

Total Current Appropriation	\$50 000 00
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Unencumbered Balance	\$14 700 00
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Amount of this Action	<u>(\$480 00)</u>
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Remaining Balance	<u>\$14,220 00</u>
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Financial Approval _____ Date _____