

AGENDA



Thursday, March 27, 2008

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 33**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (H-GAC) with CALDWELL COUNTRY CHEVROLET, Caldwell, TX, for the purchase of two police pursuit vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$66,106.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget of the Austin Police Department. The City will be reimbursed for the full amount through an existing interlocal agreement for regional mobility and transportation projects with Capital Metropolitan Authority.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Ron Mazzarella, Fleet Buyer/974-2837

Purchasing Language: Cooperative Purchase.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). This contract is a cooperative purchase; therefore, it is exempted under Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code and no goals were established for this solicitation.

This contract is for the purchase of two replacement, Chevrolet – Tahoes, 4 x 2 police vehicles to be assigned to the Highway Enforcement Division of the Austin Police Department. They will be used by police officers to run radar and investigate traffic accidents. These vehicles are equipped to tow directional arrow boards, and they carry assorted equipment such as traffic cones, tow stays, and chains to safely secure and clear accident scenes.

Austin Energy's Climate Protection staff and Fleet have worked together to develop a vehicle purchasing process in our progress towards our citywide objective of obtaining carbon neutrality by 2020. The development of the purchasing criteria incorporates emissions impact, available technologies on the market, physical demands on the vehicle, and service application. These criteria are applied to all vehicles submitted to Fleet for purchase.

These vehicles are powered by gasoline engines that are able to operate on ethanol fuel (flex fuel). Ethanol is a renewable fuel that has been shown to reduce CO2 emissions by 15% when compared to traditional gasoline.

Caldwell Country Chevrolet is under contract with the HGAC to supply various types of vehicles statewide as a result of a competitive bidding process. Utilizing the HGAC contracts provides for volume discount pricing as well as the earliest opportunity to get the City's equipment on order.