

AGENDA



Thursday, March 27, 2008

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 34**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (H-GAC) with DALLAS DODGE, Dallas, TX for the purchase of two bio-diesel equipped cargo vans in an amount not to exceed \$64,116.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Vehicle Acquisition Fund.

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 provides for the purchase of two replacement, Dodge - Sprinter cargo vans to be assigned to the Building Maintenance and Repair Division of the Austin Library Department. These vehicles will be used to transport personnel and equipment to branch libraries throughout the City for the purpose of performing building maintenance and repairs.

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 diesel engines that are able to operate on bio diesel fuel. The vehicles being replaced are powered by gasoline. With the switch to the renewable fuel, bio diesel, CO2 emissions will be reduced by approximately 25%.

These vehicles have been recommended for purchase utilizing a process that involves the Fleet Officer, effected Department Directors and Assistant City Managers (ACMs). The Fleet Service Center Manager has inspected the vehicles to be replaced, and determined that the mileage or hours of use cannot be increased without risking a significant increase in repair costs and loss of productivity due to down time.

Dallas Dodge is under contract with 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.