

AGENDA



Thursday, March 27, 2008

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 36**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COOPERATIVE (BUYBOARD) with PHILPOTT MOTORS, LTD, Nederland, TX for the purchase of two bio diesel equipped EMS commander vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$92,494.94.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$48,687.97 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Vehicle Acquisition Fund. Funding in the amount of \$43,806.97 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Special Revenue Fund of the Emergency Medical Services Department through a grant by the Federal, DHS Homeland Security Grant Program.

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 Ford – F350, 4 x 4 crewcab pickups with aluminum camper tops to be used as commander vehicles that will be assigned to the Emergency Medical Services Department. The additional unit is funded by the Federal, DHS Homeland Security Grant Program, and the replacement unit is funded by the Vehicle Acquisition Fund. These vehicles will support the regional response mission as part of the broader City of Austin regional response capability. These trucks will serve as the primary tow vehicles for 16 to 18 foot trailers that carry support equipment such as radios, generators, computers, lighting, and general logistical support equipment, for the Regional Mobile Command Unit. Due to their four-wheel drive capability and crew cab design, they will also be used as primary emergency response units to transport four to five emergency personnel in all types of terrain and weather conditions.

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. Bio diesel (B20) is a renewable fuel and has been shown to reduce CO2 emissions by 8% when compared to regular diesel.

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 vehicle 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. The new commander vehicle was also sent to Fleet Services and forwarded to the appropriate ACM for approval.

Philpott Motors is under contract with BuyBoard to supply vehicles and equipment statewide as a result of a competitive bidding process. Utilizing the BuyBoard contract provides for volume discount pricing as well as the earliest delivery of the equipment.