

## AGENDA



Thursday, August 28, 2008

**Contract and Land Management  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 18**

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**Subject:** Authorize negotiation and execution of an amendment to a professional services agreement with ALAN PLUMMER ASSOCIATES, INC. to complete a water resources planning study, in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$692,445.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding in the amount of \$150,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Capital Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

**Fiscal Note:** A fiscal note is attached.

**For More Information:** David Juarez, P.E., AWU, 972-0191, Teresa Lutes, P.E., 972-0179, April Thedford 974-7141

**MBE/WBE:** This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9B of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) with 16.9% MBE and 16.0% WBE sub-contractor participation to date.

**Boards and Commission Action:** Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

**Prior Council Action:** March 24, 2005 - Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement in an amount not to exceed \$500,000.

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The Water Resources Planning Study project was originally scoped in two phases. Initial work was performed under Phase A, which is complete. Phase A work started in early June 2005 and was completed in early October 2005. Phase B then began in October 2005. This amendment seeks additional authorization to complete Phase B of the study.

Council authorized negotiation and execution of the original professional services agreement in March 2005. The contract was executed and notice to proceed was given on May 31, 2005. Within 5 months of the notice to proceed, Phase A was completed.

Phase B commenced in October 2005 and was approximately 70% complete when the project was put on hold early/mid 2007 while City of Austin and Lower Colorado River Authority were conducting negotiations related to the June 2007 and November 2007 agreements.

Pending authorization, the next step would be to complete Phase B, which will finish the study.

Additional information on the two project phases is included below:

**Phase A Services:**

This phase focused on immediate water planning issues, mainly related to Water Treatment Plant #4, for which the City needed additional Consultant resources. At the commencement of the Water Resources Planning Study, the City was involved in evaluating numerous options and alternatives related to Water Treatment Plant #4 including siting and conservation. The services authorized under the Phase A scope included:

- Evaluation of Projected Demands - The Consultant evaluated the methodology utilized by the Utility to predict future Average and Peak Day Demands. Recommended changes in the methodology based on a statistical analysis resulted in an approximately 8 percent reduction of future Average Day Demands compared to prior methodology. The Peak Day Demand was not changed significantly as a result of the re-evaluation.

- Conducting a Water Conservation Analysis - The goal of the evaluation was to identify strategies that could be implemented within a relatively short period of time and that would reduce the City's peak day demand such that Water Treatment Plant #4 could be delayed. The Consultant identified over 100 water conservation strategies and selected 13 strategies for further evaluation. The results of the study indicated that a 20 MGD target reduction of peak day demand was achievable. This work was utilized and refined by the Water Conservation Task Force.

- Conducting an alternative site investigation for WTP #4 on Lake Travis - The Consultant conducted an Alternative Site Investigation study to determine whether suitable alternative sites were available. The Consultant compared four alternative sites to the existing plant site.

#### Phase B Services:

The primary focus of Phase B of the study encompasses consideration and evaluation of various water supply scenarios, including direct and indirect reuse options, and evaluation of demand-management alternatives, including various water conservation measures and methods in resulting in an update to Austin's integrated water resources plan. The following Phase B work has been completed to date:

- Continued Support on WTP #4 Issues - The Consultant continued to provide support as the City deliberated where to build the plant. This support included presentations to various Boards, Commissions, and the City Council, response to questions and comments received, and conducting additional evaluations on suggested alternative sites.

- Identify Potential Water Supplies - The Consultant identified potential water supply projects and conducted a workshop with Utility staff to enhance the list. A total of 45 possible projects were identified.

- Focus Potential Water Supplies - The Consultant conducted an initial evaluation of the universe of supplies in order to refine and focus the list. This information was presented to the Utility during a second workshop where the list was refined to 10 alternative supply projects that would receive additional evaluation.

- Evaluation of Alternatives - The Consultant developed and evaluated the 10 alternative water supply strategies. Preliminary estimates of water yields, costs, environmental impacts, regulatory concerns, and operational issues were completed. The remaining portion of Phase B will include updates to address any changed conditions, including cost estimates, and to reflect any water plan changes due to the recent City of Austin and LCRA agreements. Also included in Phase B is the implementation plan portion of the study, which will include a public participation component including coordination with the City of Austin and LCRA Water Partnership. It is anticipated that the remainder of the study will take approximately 6 to 9 months to complete, upon authorization to proceed.