Thursday, November 6, 2008

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 41

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COOPERATIVE (BUYBOARD) with SIDDONS FIRE APPARATUS, INC., Houston, TX, for the purchase of five pumper trucks in an amount not to exceed \$2,061,500.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$2,061,500 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Vehicle Acquisition Fund.

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

For More Information: Steve Cocke, Fleet Buyer/974-2003

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority – Owned and Woman-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 five replacement pumper fire trucks manufactured by Pierce Manufacturing that will be assigned to the Austin Fire Department. The pumpers are equipped with a standard foam system, 750 gallon water tank, 1500 gallon per minute fire pump, and assorted firefighting tools. These trucks include a 4-door custom-built crew cab with a fire pumper body capable of carrying a maximum of six firefighters. This type fire truck is capable of pumping water from either a fire hydrant or its own on-board water tank. These trucks will be used in various capacities depending on the size and nature of the fire.

The fire trucks have met the Fleet Officer's eligibility criteria for replacement. They are replacing trucks that need to be removed from front-line emergency service status due to age and overall condition. The Fleet Service Center Manager has inspected these vehicles 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.

These fire trucks are equipped with engines capable of burning biodiesel (B20) fuel. In line with Austin Climate Protection Program goals, B20 provides a roughly 25% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions versus using gasoline and an approximately 5% reduction versus using petro-diesel.

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