

AGENDA



Thursday, November 20, 2008

**Watershed Protection and Development Review
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Item No. 55

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 4 to an Interlocal Agreement with the University of North Texas (UNT) for a native vegetation restoration project to be conducted in Lake Austin and Lady Bird Lake for prevention of nuisance hydrilla growth to extend the termination date to January 31, 2010 and increase funding in an estimated amount not to exceed \$60,000, for a revised estimated contract amount not to exceed \$375,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$60,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 CIP Budget of the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Nancy McClintock, 974-2652; Edward Peacock, 974-2224; Mary Gilroy, 974-2717; and Roy Rivers, Buyer II 974-6434

MBE/WBE: This contract was awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9C of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

Prior Council Action: June 17, 2004- Approval to negotiate and execute an Interlocal Agreement. January 31, 2008- Approval to negotiate and execute Amendment No.3 to the Interlocal Agreement in the amount of \$110,000.

On June 17, 2004, the City Council authorized negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the University of North Texas for the establishment of native aquatic plant founder colonies in Lake Austin and Lady Bird Lake. The goals of the project are to: provide habitat for fish and other aquatic wildlife, maintain benefits of improved water quality associated with aquatic vegetation, reduce re-infestation of hydrilla in Lake Austin, and reduce the likelihood of infestation of hydrilla in Lady Bird Lake. On May 22, 2006, Amendment No. 1 was incorporated into this agreement, adding \$10,000 for the establishment of native aquatic plants in Barton Springs Pool. On July 5, 2006, Amendment No. 2 was incorporated into this agreement, adding \$20,000 to monitor existing founder colony sites in Lady Bird Lake and Lake Austin. On January 31, 2008, Amendment No. 3 was incorporated into this agreement, adding \$110,000 to provide for maintenance of existing founder colony sites and add 20 new founder colonies in Lady Bird Lake and Lake Austin.

This Proposed Amendment No. 4 will provide continued maintenance and replanting of beneficial native aquatic plants at the existing 20 sites, and will allow for construction of additional protective pens to limit consumption by plant-eating aquatic species and vandalism. A pilot project in 2008, for the planting of emergent species will be expanded to sandy bank areas as a mechanism for minimizing shoreline erosion on Lake Austin.

Both lakes now support viable founder colonies that have spread well outside protected areas. Ongoing monitoring and maintenance are required for long-term establishment of founder colonies and should be continued past the installation/expansion phases. Increasing damage from herbivores has been

addressed by constructing pens around the smaller ring cages; the success of this effort at a few sites in 2008 will be extended to all appropriate sites on each lake.