

AGENDA



Thursday, December 11, 2008

**Austin Water Utility
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Item No. 9

Subject: Approve issuance of a rebate in the amount of \$126,475 to Water Management, Inc. for the installation of water efficient toilets at the University of Texas at Austin's central campus.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the amount of \$2,868,728 in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget of Austin Water Utility Conservation Rebates and Incentives Fund.

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

For More Information: Dan Strub, 974-2559; Sonja Stefaniw, 974-3901; Denise Avery, 972-0104

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Citizens Water Conservation Implementation Task Force, Resource Management Commission, and Water and Wastewater Commission.

Prior Council Action: April 28, 2005 - Council approved a resolution repealing Resolution No. 990826-65 and adopting the City of Austin Water Conservation Plan.

Austin Water requests authorization to issue a rebate in the amount of \$126,475 to Water Management, Inc. for the installation of 685 1.6 gallon flush valve toilets and 33 1.28 gallon high efficiency tank type toilets at the University of Texas in Austin's central campus in accordance with the City of Austin's Commercial Toilet Rebate Program guidelines.

This program is one element of Austin Water's comprehensive Water Conservation Plan, approved in April 2005 by City Council, and is designed to replace old large capacity toilets with water efficient models. The replacement of these toilets is expected to save 25,024 gallons per day, reducing demands on Utility's treatment capacity and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions created by energy used to treat and pump the water by 21 metric tons of CO2 emissions/yr.

The University of Texas at Austin is contracting with Water Management, Inc., to improve water efficiency at its facilities here in Austin. Under this performance contract, Water Management is identifying opportunities for water savings, purchasing and installing water saving equipment. As such, Water Management is the agent that is determining which fixtures to install, and without the Water Conservation rebate would not find it cost effective to replace these old large capacity toilets. As the agency that is deciding which fixtures to purchase and install, Water Management is eligible under the program guidelines to receive the rebate. Water Management, the University of Texas, and Water Conservation have been working together on this effort from its inception to help the University reduce its water usage.