

AGENDA



Thursday, January 29, 2009

**Contract and Land Management
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 7**

Subject: Authorize execution of a construction contract with BENITEZ CONSTRUCTION, INC. (MBE 26.43%), Manor, TX for Water Reclamation Initiative Central Zone Projects Phase 1B - East 51st Street Pipeline in the amount of \$953,060.50 plus a \$95,306 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,048,366.50.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$1,048,366.50 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Yuejiao Liu, P.E. 974-7216; Dan Pedersen, P.E. 972-0074; Robin Field 974-7064; April Thedford 974-7141

Purchasing Language: Lowest bid of thirteen (13) bids received.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9A of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 5.02% African American, 4.30 % Hispanic, and 4.43% WBE subcontractor participation.

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

This project consists of the installation of approximately 4,000 linear feet of 24-inch diameter reclaimed water line, valves, and other appurtenances associated with the construction of a pipeline along East 51st Street. The project is to construct a water line which will connect to an existing 24-inch reclaimed water line just west of Berkman Drive. It terminates at the south east corner of the intersection of East 51st Street and Interstate Highway 35. The project accommodates future extension of the reclaimed water system into central Austin along East 50th Street and Red River. It also accommodates future extension of the reclaimed water system into Cameron Drive.

The project will directly serve reclaimed water customers on the western side of the Mueller Redevelopment and is consistent with the Mueller Redevelopment Master Plan. Reclaimed water service to the Mueller Redevelopment will conserve up to 160 million gallons of water per year and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by an estimated 20 metric tons. The project is a prerequisite for later serving potential customers in central Austin including the Ridgetop Elementary School, the Red River Church, the Sri Atmandana School, the Hancock Golf Course, the Hancock Center, the East Avenue Development, the St. Paul Lutheran Church, the University of Texas, the Capital Complex, and the Downtown area.

In conjunction with the 51st Street Reclaimed Water Tower project, Austin Water Utility held numerous public meetings with neighborhoods and businesses that will potentially be affected by the construction of the water transmission main. Communications with these groups will continue throughout the construction phase.

Due to a request by Catellus, the Mueller Developer to consider lowering 200 feet of main, the possibility of a short sewer main extension to be added to the project, and the small project size, a 10% contingency funding has been included to allow for the expeditious processing of any change orders.

The contract allows 180 calendar days for substantial completion of this project.