

Thursday, March 5, 2009

Addendum RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 49

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Transportation Department Capital Budget of Ordinance No. 20080908-003 to increase appropriations by \$7,600,000 for the replacement of parking meters with pay stations for a total appropriation of \$7,600,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$7,600,000 is available in tax-supported General Obligation Contractual Obligations to be issued in August 2009 or later.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Robert Spillar, Transportation Department Director, / 974-2200; Ed Van Eenoo, Budget Officer / 974-2610

This action appropriates \$7,600,000 for the parking meter replacement project. There are related agenda items for consideration by Council for this project. The Transportation Department has completed an analysis of the current City of Austin parking meter system and has found the system to be in failing condition and in need of replacement.

The review of meter replacement included looking at new parking meter technology and available companies to service a contract. The Urban Transportation Commission, the Downtown Design Commission, and a City Council briefing provided input into the type of technology desired. The Pay and Display parking method was chosen based on product reliability, proven technology, credit card capabilities, Americans with Disability Act benefit of reduced on-street clutter, potential distribution of transit tickets, fully solar-powered technology, reporting/back office system, and acceptability in United States cities.

To date, the Transportation Department has provided briefings in the community on the new pay station system to representatives of the Downtown Austin Alliance, the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce, the West End Austin Alliance, and the University Neighborhood Overlay committee. Additional media releases and public education are planned for the launch of the new meters starting in June 2009 before the installation begins in August 2009.