

AGENDA



Thursday, May 21, 2009

**Austin Water Utility
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 6**

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with Texas AgriLife Extension Service - Wildlife Services for the control and management of Feral Hogs that threaten public safety and cause property damage in Austin neighborhoods for a term of one year, with an option to renew the agreement for up to one additional year, in an amount not to exceed \$170,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$95,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget of the Austin Water Utility. Funding for the remaining year is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

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

For More Information: William Conrad, 263-6430; Denise Avery, 972-0104.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission. Related to Item #7.

Feral hogs are the offspring of domesticated hogs that were once part of a farm's livestock operation that have left farms and became wild. Recent drought conditions have resulted in these feral hogs to leave their traditional habitat and move into neighborhoods that adjoin City Wildlands and undeveloped property seeking sustenance and shelter. Feral hogs are a growing threat in Austin because their population is expanding and their presence in neighborhoods poses potential threat to human safety and substantial damage to private property.

The City Manager and staff have developed this agreement with Texas AgriLife Extension Service - Wildlife Services, a subdivision of the State of Texas, to provide professional services to the City in the form of a full time Feral Hog Management Biologist to consult and coordinate with City staff to reduce conflicts between neighborhoods and feral hogs beginning in Fiscal Year 2009-2010.