

AGENDA



Thursday, May 21, 2009

**Austin Water Utility
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 7**

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of a Cooperative Agreement with Texas Wildlife Damage Management Fund for the control and management of Feral Hogs that threaten public safety and cause property damage in Austin neighborhoods for an initial term ending September 30, 2009, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

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 #6.

Feral hogs are the offspring of domesticated hogs that were once part of a farm's livestock operation but left farms and became wild. Recent drought conditions have forced these feral hogs to leave their traditional habitat and move into neighborhoods that adjoin City Wildlands and undeveloped property seeking sustenance and shelter. They 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 a Cooperative Agreement with Texas Wildlife Damage Management Fund, a subdivision of the State of Texas, to provide professional services to the City in the form of a Feral Hog Management expert to consult and coordinate with City staff to minimize feral hog problems within urban areas.