

AGENDA



Thursday, June 18, 2009

**Austin Water Utility
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 4**

Subject: Approve issuance of a rebate in the amount of \$54,791 to Crowne Plaza for the installation of 293 water efficient toilets at the Crowne Plaza Hotel at 6121 N IH 35.

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

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is not required.

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

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission. To be reviewed by the Citizens Water Conservation Implementation Task Force on June 15, 2009 and Resource Management Commission Action on June 16, 2009.

Austin Water requests authorization to issue a rebate in the amount of \$54,791 to Crowne Plaza Hotel for the purchase and installation of two hundred and ninety three 1.28 gallon high efficiency tank-type toilets at the Crowne Plaza Hotel at 6121 N IH 35 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 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 8,468 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 an estimated 6.52 tons per year.

This rebate is for the cost of the free toilets and their installation. The toilets were installed by A Quality Plumbing, a licensed plumber in the state of Texas. The rebate amounts are as follows:

Toilet model:	Caroma Sydney
Cost:	\$155.00 per unit
Installation cost:	\$32.00 per unit
Units installed:	293
Total cost:	\$54,971

For 2009, the Austin Water Utility has rebated a total of 3,135 toilets; provided 5,852 free toilets; and given approximately \$111,212 in free toilet installation rebates.