

AGENDA



Thursday, July 23, 2009

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 81**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a 24-month requirements supply contract with NIAGARA CONSERVATION CORP., Cedar Knolls, NJ, for the purchase and installation of high efficiency toilets for the Austin Water Utility in an estimated amount not to exceed \$3,173,300, with two 12-month extension options in an estimated amount not to exceed \$1,586,650 per extension option, for a total estimated contract amount not to exceed \$6,346,600.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$264,442 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008–2009 Operating Budget of the Austin Water Utility. Funding for the remaining 22 months of the original contract period and extension options 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: Steve Aden, Purchasing Manager, 974-2021.

Purchasing Language: Lowest bid meeting specifications of two bids received.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

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

One of the most cost-effective, lasting strategies to reduce water consumption is to replace high water use toilets with efficient models. This contract will provide for the purchase and installation of up to 8,000 high-efficiency-toilets annually for AWU customers who qualify through the Utilities High-Efficiency-Toilet Direct Install Program.

The objective of this contract is to remove barriers to toilet replacement by providing high-quality, high-efficiency toilets and qualified installation at no cost to multi-family customers. In addition, the contract will develop a marketing and outreach plan to eligible multi-family properties under the program.

8,000 high-efficiency-toilets replacing older toilets will save at least 122,400 gallons per day annually.

MBE/WBE solicited: 2/1

MBE/WBE bid: 0/0

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Adequate competition.
- b. Forty-five notices were sent, including two MBEs and one WBE firm. Two bids were received, with no response from the MBE/WBEs.
- c. This is the first purchase of this type; therefore, there is no pricing history available.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Lowest bid received meeting specifications.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with Austin Water Utility's recommended award.
- c. Advertised in the Austin American-Statesman and Internet.