

AGENDA



Thursday, July 23, 2009

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**
Item No. 89

Subject: Authorize award and execution of three contracts through the Texas Local Government Purchasing Cooperative (BuyBoard) with LONGHORN INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS, LTD., Austin, TX, for the purchase of nine truck cab and chassis in an amount not to exceed \$1,144,690; with HEIL OF TEXAS, Houston, TX, for the purchase of seven automated and two rear-loading refuse collection bodies in an amount not to exceed \$994,645.45; and with RUSH TRUCK CENTER, Houston, TX, for the purchase of one dead-end rear-loading refuse collection truck in an amount not to exceed \$114,011.13.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$2,253,346.58 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget of the Solid Waste Services Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Sharon Patterson, Senior Buyer 972-4014

MBE/WBE: These contracts will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). These contracts are Cooperative Purchases; therefore, they are exempted under Chapter 791 of the Texas Local Government Code and no goals were established for this solicitation.

These contracts are for the purchase of 10 truck chassis with mounted refuse collection bodies to be used by the Solid Waste Services Department (SWS).

Included in this purchase are the following pieces of equipment:

- 9 Truck Chassis - 7 Replacement, 2 New (manufactured by Crane Carrier)
- 2 Rear-loading Refuse Collection Bodies - Replacement (manufactured by Heil)
- 7 Automated Refuse Collection Bodies - 5 Replacement, 2 New (manufactured by Heil)
- 1 Truck Chassis, Dead-end Collection - Replacement (manufactured by UD)
- 1 Rear-loading, Dead-end Refuse Collection Body - Replacement (manufactured by Heil)

The rear loading equipment will be used to support the yard trimmings and brush and bulky programs. The automated refuse collection trucks are equipped with a hydraulically-operated arm that reaches out and grasps the refuse container set out at the curb by the homeowner, dumps the contents into a hopper on the truck, and then sets the refuse container back down on the curb. This process is accomplished by only one operator who remains in the truck at all times. SWS has determined that automated refuse collection is faster and more cost-effective than conventional methods.

The dead-end collection truck has a narrow footprint and a shorter overall length. This enables this truck to be used in areas where alleys and narrow streets preclude the use of conventional refuse collection vehicles.

Austin Energy's Climate Protection team and Fleet have worked together to develop a vehicle purchasing process in our progress towards our citywide objective of obtaining carbon neutrality by 2020. The development of the purchasing criteria incorporates emissions impact, available technologies on the market, physical demands on the vehicle, and service application. These criteria are applied to all vehicles submitted to Fleet for purchase.

These trucks are equipped with engines capable of burning biodiesel (B20) fuel. In line with Austin Climate Protection Program goals, B20 provides an approximate 25% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions versus using gasoline and an approximate 5% reduction versus using petro-diesel.

These refuse trucks have met the Fleet Officer's eligibility criteria for replacement. They are replacing refuse trucks that need to be removed from service due to age and overall condition. The Fleet Service Center Manager has inspected these vehicles and determined that the mileage or hours of use cannot be increased without risking a significant increase in repair costs and loss of productivity due to down time. The two new vehicles were also sent to Fleet Services and approved by the appropriate ACM.

Longhorn International Trucks, Ltd., Heil of Texas, and Rush Truck Centers are contracted through BuyBoard to supply these types of vehicles and equipment statewide as a result of a competitive bidding process. Utilizing BuyBoard contracts provides for volume discount pricing as well as the earliest opportunity to place the City's vehicle order.