

## AGENDA



Thursday, August 27, 2009

**Purchasing Office  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 50**

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**Subject:** Authorize award and execution of Amendment No. 5 of an Interlocal Agreement with the University of North Texas, for a native vegetation restoration project conducted in Lake Austin and Lady Bird Lake requiring an increase in the contract amount in an estimated amount not to exceed \$15,000, for a revised estimated contract amount not to exceed \$390,000.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding in the amount of \$15,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Capital Budget of the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department.

**Fiscal Note:** A fiscal note is attached.

**For More Information:** Steve Cocke, Buyer II, 974-2003

**Purchasing Language:** Contract Amendment.

**MBE/WBE:** This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9C of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program.) This is an Interlocal Agreement and is exempted under Chapter 791 of the Texas Local Government Code and no goals were established for this solicitation.

**Prior Council Action:** June 17, 2004 – Approval to negotiate and execute an Interlocal Agreement, January 31, 2008 – approval to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 3 to the Interlocal Agreement in the amount of \$110,000. November 20, 2008 – approval to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 4 to the Interlocal Agreement in the amount of \$60,000.

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Lake Austin has been experiencing ongoing erosion problems due to a combination of excessive wave action (boats and wind) and runoff from steep banks. Much of the Lake shoreline is currently protected with solid bulkheads that exacerbate the problem by reflecting rather than absorbing wave energy back into the system. Additionally, these bulkheads limit the establishment of submerged and shoreline vegetation that will stabilize shorelines, provide valuable wildlife habitat, and improve water quality by absorption of nutrients and entrainment of sediment.

As part of this ongoing contract, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Lewisville Aquatic Ecosystem Research Facility (LAERF) has developed techniques for establishing native aquatic vegetation in Lake Austin. LAERF has a cooperative agreement with University of North Texas whereby they collaborate on projects utilizing UNT staff with critical expertise in aquatic plant research. Using these techniques, the proposed Amendment No. 5 will establish native shoreline vegetation that will reduce wave energy while providing the other benefits described. This study will evaluate several shoreline planting strategies along undeveloped shoreline, with the goal of establishing significant strands of shoreline species that can withstand wave action in the lake.