Thursday, September 24, 2009

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 66

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments (HGAC) with SCHWARZE INDUSTRIES, INC., Huntsville, AL for the purchase of three street sweepers in an amount not to exceed \$627,824 and WIRTGEN AMERICA, INC., Antioch, TN for the purchase of one self-propelled paver in an amount not to exceed \$150,669.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$315,293 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget of the Public Works Department. Funding in the amount of \$463,200 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget of the Solid Waste Services Department.

Fiscal Note: Fiscal notes are attached.

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

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). This contract is a Cooperative Purchase; therefore, it is 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 one new self-propelled paver and three replacement regenerative air street sweepers. The equipment will be distributed between Public Works Department and Solid Waste Services Department.

Included in this purchase are the following pieces of equipment:

Public Works - Street and Bridge

- 1 Self-Propelled Paver New
- 1 Regenerative Air Street Sweeper Replacement

Solid Waste Services

- 1 Regenerative Air Street Sweeper Replacement
- 1 Regenerative Air Street Sweeper, Compressed Natural Gas Replacement

Austin Energy's Austin Climate Protection Program, the Purchasing Office's Green Purchasing Program, and Fleet have worked together to develop a vehicle and equipment 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.

The majority of this equipment is powered 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 petrodiesel. Solid Waste Services is purchasing one street sweeper equipped with an engine powered by compressed natural gas (CNG) to see if this type engine will properly function within this service application. Heavy-duty CNG vehicles emit approximately 15 percent fewer greenhouse gas emissions relative to gasoline.

All of the replacement equipment has met the Fleet Officer's eligibility criteria for replacement. The Fleet Service Center Managers have inspected each piece of equipment to be replaced, and determined that the mileage or hours of use of each piece proposed for replacement cannot be increased without risking a significant increase in repair costs and loss of productivity due to down time. The new piece of equipment was also sent to Fleet Services and forwarded to the appropriate ACM for approval.

Schwarze Industries and Wirtgen America are both contracted through HGAC to supply this type of equipment statewide as a result of a competitive bidding process. Utilizing HGAC contracts provides for volume discount pricing as well as the earliest opportunity to place the City's equipment order.