

AGENDA



Thursday, April 8, 2010

**Austin Water Utility
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 3**

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Austin and the University of Texas at Austin to conduct Geotech/GIS Services, in the amount of \$34,200.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$34,200 is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Robert Lamb, 972-0204; Kathi Flowers, 972-0213; Denise Avery, 972-0104

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

The University of Texas ("UT") will research, study, and develop an electronic database containing geological and geotechnical information to be presented in a form that can be incorporated into the City's (Austin Water Utility) Geographic Information System. The database will be populated with data found in existing geotechnical reports that have been produced for previous City of Austin projects. No new geotechnical borings will be necessary.

The City performs geotechnical investigations on its Capital Improvement Projects in order to determine subsurface materials and conditions. Field and laboratory tests are a part of those investigations. The information collected on each project is used for that particular project and then retained in archived paper files. An electronic database will facilitate making that information available for the planning phases of future projects. The work covered by this Agreement will be the preliminary phase in populating a GIS-linked database with the desired geologic and geotechnical information for general use by City staff. Providing this information online for access by all City departments will eliminate multiple payments for geotechnical investigations in the same location.

UT has the necessary software and expertise to perform this work. In order to monitor the program's progress AWU staff will meet quarterly with Dr. Robert Gilbert, who is a professor of civil, architectural, and environmental engineering and is UT's designated representative on the contract. It is currently planned to have one graduate student working on the project, and the agreement is for one year.