

AGENDA



Thursday, August 5, 2010

**Austin Energy
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 2**

Subject: Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$10,000 in grant funds from the U.S. Department of Energy through the Public Solutions Group, Ltd., Grapevine, TX, and amending the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Austin Energy Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20090914-002 to appropriate such grant funds, and authorize negotiation and execution of a two-year agreement between the Central Texas Clean Cities Program and Texas State Technical College in Waco, TX, to administer "Clean Start," a U.S. Department of Energy Clean Cities Petroleum Reduction Technologies Project, in the amount of \$5,000 a year for two years, for a total amount not to exceed \$10,000. The grant period is December 31, 2009 through December 31, 2013.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from Public Solutions Group, Ltd. Matching funds are not required.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Ester Matthews, Austin Climate Protection Program Director, 322-6041.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Resource Management Commission.

This grant will be used to conduct two alternative fuel workshops a year for two years in the Central Texas Clean Cities Coalition area. The purpose of the workshops is to promote propane as a vehicular fuel in conjunction with the Department of Energy's (DOE) Clean Start Program. The four year grant period includes purchases by other partners (listed below), two years of workshops, and reporting on the project. The actual project rollout is to be completed by December 31, 2011. Clean Cities will receive \$5,000 a year for two years to conduct workshops.

Public Solutions Group is the administrating agency for "Clean Start," the development of the National Autogas Refueling Network, the Clean School Bus/Vehicle Incentive Program and the Green Jobs Outreach Program in response to DOE's Clean Cities FY09 Petroleum Reduction Technologies Projects for the transportation sector. Texas State Technical College is the grant applicant for the DOE Clean Start Program. Major partners include Conoco Phillips, CleanFUEL USA, Rush Truck Centers, and 16 DOE Clean Cities across nine states. Public Solutions Group is the contractor for this project through DOE and is responsible for dispersing funds to Central Texas Clean Cities for operational activities and expenses.

There are 87 DOE Clean Cities Coalitions across the United States, six of which are in Texas. The Central Texas Clean Cities Coalition includes Travis, Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Williamson Counties, and Fort Hood in Killeen, Texas.

The Central Texas Clean Cities Program is a government-industry partnership designed to reduce petroleum consumption in the transportation sector by advancing the use of alternative fuels and vehicles, idle reduction technologies, hybrid electric vehicles, fuel blends, and fuel economy measures. It is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy's Vehicle Technologies Program and contributes to the energy, environmental, and economic security of the U.S. by supporting local decisions to reduce our dependence on imported petroleum. The City of Austin through Austin Energy is the administrator and

fiduciary agent for the Central Texas Clean Cities Program. The City of Austin has been a designated stakeholder with DOE Clean Cities since 1994.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute to this grant.