

AGENDA



Thursday, January 13, 2011

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 27**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments Cooperative Purchasing Program (HGAC) with FREEWAY FORD, Houston, TX, for the purchase of four Emergency Medical Services command vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$294,500.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Vehicle Acquisition Fund.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

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

MBE/WBE: This Cooperative Purchase is exempt from the MBE/WBE Ordinance. This exemption is in compliance with Chapter 2-9C of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this contract.

This contract is for the purchase of two new and two replacement Ford F-350 cab and chassis mounted with an urban command EMS module service-body to be assigned to the Emergency Medical Services Department.

Included in this purchase are the following vehicles:

Emergency Medical Services Department: 1 Ford F350 Cab and Chassis with urban command body – New, assigned to Special Events Division; 3 Ford F350 Cab and Chassis with remounted urban command body – 1 New, 2 Replacements, assigned to District Command 7, Special Operations Field Command, and Special Events.

The Austin Climate Protection team and Fleet staff 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.

All the vehicles in this RCA are 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 petro-diesel.

The vehicles in this RCA have been recommended for purchase utilizing a process that involves the Fleet Officer, affected Department Directors, and Assistant City Managers (ACMs). ACM approval is required for all new additions to the City's fleet prior to any requests being made to the Purchasing Office.

Departments reviewed the list of vehicles determined eligible for replacement by Fleet Services based on mileage, hours of use, and maintenance costs. From that list, priority uses were determined within the

departments, and the proposed equipment was reviewed by the Fleet Service Center Manager to insure the specified vehicle is appropriate for the use.

All of these replacement vehicles have met the Fleet Officer's eligibility criteria for replacement. The Fleet Service Center Managers have inspected each vehicle to be replaced, and determined that the mileage or hours of use of each vehicle proposed for replacement cannot be increased without risking a significant increase in repair costs and loss of productivity due to down time.

The Purchasing Office conducted an analysis to determine that the HGAC contract was the best value to the City. The Freeway Ford contract offered the lowest prices and is able to provide the vehicles that fully meet the needs of the Emergency Medical Services Department. Freeway Ford is contracted through HGAC to supply these types of vehicles to other public entities 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 vehicles on order.