

AGENDA



Thursday, March 24, 2011

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 32**

Subject: Approve ratification of an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Austin (COA) and the LOWER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY (LCRA) to promote the Water IQ water conservation awareness campaign in an amount not to exceed \$69,000.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Operating Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

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

For More Information: Sydney Ceder, Sr. Buyer, 974-2035

Purchasing Language: Contract Amendment.

MBE/WBE: This Interlocal Agreement 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.

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

Prior Council Action: June 18, 2008 - Council approved a 12-month interlocal agreement with the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA)

This Council action is to request an additional \$69,000 be added to the LCRA Water IQ Account. The Water IQ campaign is a statewide public awareness water conservation program that educates the public on the source of their water and their impact on the environment. Through the Water IQ conservation program, LCRA and Austin Water provided information on water-efficient practices, raised awareness about the importance of water conservation, and helped customers use less water. This partnership allowed Austin Water to develop a regional approach to achieving our water conservation goals.

The work done as part of the Water IQ campaign was instrumental to the success of Austin Water's water conservation programs and also played an important role in increasing water awareness during the height of the significant drought.

In June 2008, Council approved a 12-month interlocal agreement with the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) in the amount of \$200,000 with two 12-month extension options to participate in the regional "Water IQ: Know Your Water" campaign. Unfortunately there was a misunderstanding regarding the final extension option, which resulted in expenditures going over the contract authorization. Austin Water has incorporated controls to closely monitor its contractual expenditures.