

CIP EXPENSE DETAIL

DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:
CONTACT DEPARTMENT(S):

5/26/11
Austin Water Utility

SUBJECT: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the Texas Local Government Purchasing Cooperative (BuyBoard) with SNF, INC. dba BRAND FX Ft. Worth, TX, for the purchase of one brush truck in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

CURRENT YEAR IMPACT:

Department:	Austin Water Utility
Project Name:	Awu Vehicles 2011
Fund/Department/Unit:	4180 2207 8077
Funding Source:	
Current Appropriation:	1,195,557.00
Unencumbered Balance:	1,193,345.21
Amount of This Action:	(100,000.00)
Remaining Balance:	<u>1,093,345.21</u>
 Total Amount of this Action	 <u><u>100,000.00</u></u>

ANALYSIS / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: This contract is for the purchase of one new brush truck and will be assigned to the Wildland Conservation Division of the Austin Water Utility and will be used for prescribed burns and wildfire response.

This truck will be used to implement prescribed burns on both the Water Quality Protection Lands and the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve. In addition, the truck will be used in partnership with the Austin Fire Department and other local fire departments responding to wildfires. Prescribed burns are carefully planned and controlled fires that take into consideration many factors such as weather conditions, topography, and vegetation type. Prescribed burns are a critical tool used in the protection of the aquifer recharge by restoring native grasslands and for creating and maintaining a habitat for endangered species such as the black-capped vireo.

This truck is built to current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard and is equipped with a foam system, 300-gallon water tank, and assorted firefighting tools, hoses and equipment.

Austin Energy's Climate Protection team and Fleet 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.

The truck is powered with an engine 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 vehicle and equipment 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