

## A G E N D A



## Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	7776	Agenda Number	90.
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Meeting Date:	July 28, 2011
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Department:	Purchasing
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## Subject

Authorize award and execution of a contract with CALDWELL COUNTRY CHEVROLET, Caldwell, TX for the purchase of twelve Chevrolet Tahoes in an amount not to exceed \$331,619.45.

## Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$204,020.30 is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Vehicle Acquisition Fund. Funding in the amount of \$91,599.15 is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Capital Budget of Austin Energy.

## Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	Best evaluated bid of two bids received.
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Prior Council Action:	
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For More Information:	Sharon Patterson, Senior Buyer, 972-4014.
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Boards and Commission Action:	To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission on July 18, 2011.
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MBE / WBE:	This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9D 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.
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Related Items:	
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### Additional Backup Information

This contract is for the purchase of four new and eight replacement Model Year 2011 Chevrolet Tahoes which will be assigned to Austin Energy, the Austin Police Department, and the Emergency Medical Services Department.

The Tahoe provides the necessary towing capability, interior storage capacity of equipment, and vehicle performance, which fully meets the needs of the using departments. It is the only vehicle of its type which carries a police-pursuit rating required by Public Safety departments. To have this rating, a vehicle must have high-performing acceleration, suspension, and braking system; all of which ensure greater maneuverability, quicker response times, and better visibility for the driver.

APD will use the Tahoe for highway enforcement activities which include towing the scales used to weigh heavy-duty trucks and responding to high-priority emergency calls such as vehicular accidents.

EMS Medics and Medical Officers use the Tahoe to respond to Code 3 calls such as cardiac arrests, complicated births, rescues, and other high-priority emergency medical calls.

Austin Energy will use the Tahoe to transport testing equipment which is sensitive to humidity, temperature, and vibration. The larger wheel-base and interior capacity of the Tahoe allows for the smooth transportation of this equipment to various locations.

The Austin Climate Protection Program 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 of these trucks are powered by E85 flex fuel, meaning they can operate on a blend of 85% ethanol with 15% gasoline. E85 provides roughly a 15% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions relative to gasoline.

In order to determine the best value to the City, evaluation criteria included cost of the vehicles, local economic impact, markup to dealer cost on accessories and equipment, and the hourly labor rate to install accessories and equipment.

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 review 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 vehicles in this purchase will be assigned to the following City Departments:

Austin Energy

Three 4x4 Chevrolet Tahoes – 1 New, 2 Replacement

Austin Police Department

Five 4x2 Chevrolet Tahoes – Replacements

Emergency Medical Services

Four 4x2 Chevrolet Tahoes – 3 New, 1 Replacement

MBE/WBE solicited: 0/0

MBE/WBE bid: 0/0

**BID TABULATION**

IFB Best-Value No. SAP0126

(2 line items)

Caldwell Country Chevrolet  
Caldwell, TX

\$350,634.00

Gunn Chevrolet, Ltd.  
Live Oak, TX

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\* Gunn Chevrolet withdrew its bid; therefore, it will not be considered for award.

A copy of the complete bid tabulation is on file in the Purchasing Office.

**PRICE ANALYSIS**

- a. Adequate competition.
- b. Seventy-one notices were sent. There are no known MBE/WBEs available for this commodity.
- c. The pricing represents a 3% increase to the last purchase made in May 2010 utilizing the Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments Cooperative Purchasing Program (HGAC). The increase to last year's purchase represents a GM/Chevrolet factory-mandated price increase. These prices are equivalent to what the City would pay if the vehicles were purchased using the HGAC Cooperative.

**APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION**

- a. Best-evaluated bid received. Caldwell Country Chevrolet is the current provider of these vehicles.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with Fleet's recommended award.
- c. Advertised in the Austin American-Statesman and on the Internet.