CIP
EXPENSE DETAIL

DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION: 12/6/12
CONTACT DEPARTMENT(S): Austin Water Utility

SUBJECT: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the Texas Local Government Purchasing Cooperative (BuyBoard) with McCOURT & SONS EQUIPMENT, INC. for the purchase of one compost windrow turner for the Austin Water Utility in an amount not to exceed $532,060. Funding in the amount of $532,060 is available in the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Capital Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

Department: Austin Water Utility
Project Name: Awu Capital Vehicles-Ww
Fund/Department/Unit: 4680 2307 8677
Funding Source: Contractual Obligations

Current Appropriation: $2,238,480.00
Unencumbered Balance: $2,238,480.00
Amount of This Action: ($532,060.00)
Remaining Balance: $1,706,420.00

ANALYSIS / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
This contract is for the purchase of one Scarab Compost Windrow Turner to be assigned to the Austin Water Utility at Hornsby Bend for the production of Dillo Dirt. This unit will replace a piece of equipment currently in the fleet.

Windrow composting is the production of compost by piling organic material or biodegradable waste in large rows (windrow). This method is best suited for large volumes of composting, such as the production of Dillo Dirt. The rows are turned by a windrow turner to improve oxygen content, mix in or remove moisture, and redistribute cooler and hotter portions of the material.

Fleet Services and the Office of Sustainability have worked together to develop a vehicle purchasing process to progress towards our citywide objective of obtaining carbon neutrality by 2020. The purchasing criteria incorporate criteria pollutant and greenhouse gas emissions impact, available technologies on the market, physical demands on the vehicle, service application, and life-cycle cost. These criteria are applied to all vehicle purchase requests submitted to Fleet.

This equipment is powered with an engine capable of operating on B20 biodiesel (20% biodiesel blended with 80% petro-diesel). The B20 biodiesel that the City of Austin currently purchases is TXLED compliant, ultra-low sulfur diesel, with the TCEQ approved KERN additive. A new technology vehicle operating on B20 produces at least 10% less particulate matter, at least 10% less carbon monoxide, and at least 10% less unburned hydrocarbons from running on petro-diesel, while also reducing life cycle greenhouse gas emission by at least 15%.

The equipment in this RCA has been recommended for purchase utilizing a process that involves the Fleet Officer, affected Department Directors, and Assistant City Managers (ACMs).

Departments reviewed the list of equipment 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 ensure the specified equipment is appropriate for the use.

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

McCourt & Sons Equipment, Inc. is contracted through BuyBoard to supply this type of equipment to other public entities statewide as a result of a competitive bidding process. Utilizing BuyBoard contracts provides for volume discount pricing as well as the earliest opportunity to place the City’s equipment orders.