

CIP EXPENSE DETAIL

DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

CONTACT DEPARTMENT(S):

Austin Water Utility

SUBJECT. Authorize negotiation and execution of an amendment to a professional services agreement with ALAN PLUMMER ASSOCIATES, INC. to develop drought management options for a water resources planning study in an amount not to exceed \$200,000, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$892,445.

CURRENT YEAR IMPACT:

Department:	Austin Water Utility
Project Name:	Water Resource Planning Study
Fund/Department/Unit:	3920 2207 7119
Funding Source:	AWU Fund Transfer
Current Appropriation:	916,034.00
Unencumbered Balance:	200,000.54
Amount of This Action:	(200,000.00)
Remaining Balance:	<u>0.54</u>
Total Amount of this Action	<u><u>200,000.00</u></u>

ANALYSIS / ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The firm Alan Plummer Associates, Incorporated (APAI) will work closely with staff from the Austin Water Utility to identify near term drought response options to help ensure that the City of Austin (COA) has adequate water supply in the event the current drought continues and in the event similar conditions re-develop in the future.

Unprecedented drought conditions and other factors have combined to result in low combined storage levels in Lakes Travis and Buchanan.

The Lower Colorado River Authority notified firm water customers in May 2013 that pro-rata curtailment may be required by late summer or early fall this year. This means that firm customers like the COA would be required to initially reduce water use by 20 percent from the baseline reference year and possibly further if the drought were to continue. LCRA's rules provide for crediting entities like the COA for conservation savings achieved in the baseline reference year. The COA has an LCRA approved pro-rata curtailment plan that documents that the COA, through its water conservation and reuse programs, had already reduced water use by 13.7 percent in the reference year. However, the LCRA is requiring submittal of additional information to verify growth assumptions included in the plan.

Pending authorization, APAI would assist the City with developing drought response information and drought management options including the development of short and mid-term drought management options for both supply-side and demand-side management in response to the ongoing drought; evaluate current drought contingency plan effects on water demands; prepare and evaluate econometric models at the individual customer meter data level to perform statistical analyses; and develop and update response to pro-rata curtailment plan information for submittal to LCRA.

The project is managed by the Austin Water Utility.

Alan Plummer Associates, Incorporated (APAI) is located in Austin, TX.