



**Interlocal Agreement  
CITY OF AUSTIN  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 37  
AGENDA DATE: Thu 09/01/2005  
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**SUBJECT:** Authorize negotiation and execution of a 12-month State Use Agreement with Texas Industries for the Blind and Handicapped for vegetation control in creeks and detention/water quality ponds, and for the hauling of excessive vegetation and debris from specified job site locations to an acceptable landfill in an amount not to exceed \$1,672,000.

**AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING:** Funding in the amount of \$1,672,000 is included in the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Proposed Operating Budget of the Watershed Protection & Development Review Department. Funding is contingent on approval of the proposed budget.

**FISCAL NOTE:** There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**REQUESTING** Watershed Protection and **DIRECTOR'S**  
**DEPARTMENT:** Development Review **AUTHORIZATION:** Joe Pantalion

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jim Grube, 974-3359; Donna Lee Bliss, 974-2530;  
Jacqueline Ramos 974-3371

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:** N/A

**BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION:** N/A

**PURCHASING:** N/A

**MBE / WBE:** N/A

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To reduce the risk of flooding to properties adjacent to waterways, this agreement provides for the clearing of excessive vegetation and debris from identified high-risk drainage channels and creeks. This agreement also provides these services for detention and water quality ponds and in newly annexed areas in accordance with approved service plans.

Texas Industries for the Blind and Handicapped (TIBH), in conjunction with Easter Seals Central Texas, has performed this service for the past sixteen (16) years. Their dedication, experience, and timely performance demonstrate their qualifications to continue the creek clearing and pond maintenance services the City is obligated to provide.

State Law allows political subdivisions to substitute services available from blind or disabled persons for those which could be purchased from private businesses without securing competitive bids (Texas Human Resources Code, Section 122.017). Comparison of TIBH prices in past years has shown them to be at or below those of the private sector. TIBH's prices will remain the same for the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 contract as they were for the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 contract (Price Agreement #S050014). However, the FY05-06 contract has been increased by \$54,000 to provide the vegetation service for additional ponds projected to be added to the pond maintenance requirement and the vegetation service for seventy-five (75) lots located in the Onion Creek watershed that have been acquired by the City's Flood Buy-Out Plan to remove properties from the floodplain.



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Texas Industries for the Blind and Handicapped serves as a broker to locate and administer contracts for non-profit organizations. Easter Seals Central Texas Workforce Development Program personnel will perform the work and receive 94% of the funds. TIBH will receive the remaining 6% of the funds to cover administrative costs. This contract will provide jobs to individuals who would otherwise need public assistance if this work program were not available.