



**Purchasing Service Agreement
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 21
AGENDA DATE: Thu 02/16/2006
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SUBJECT: Authorize execution of a 12-month service agreement through the HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM (H-GAC) with NEXTEL OF TEXAS, INC., dba NEXTEL COMMUNICATIONS, Reston, VA for wireless cellular and radio services in an amount not to exceed \$154,500, with three 12-month extension options in an amount not to exceed \$154,500 per extension option, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$618,000.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding in the amount of \$103,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Approved Operating Budgets of various departments. Funding for the remaining four months of the original contract period and extension options is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

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

REQUESTING Purchasing **DIRECTOR'S**
DEPARTMENT: for Fire; Austin Energy; **AUTHORIZATION:** Vickie Schubert
Emergency Medical
Services;

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Lynn Mueller, Senior Management Analyst, 972-4011.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: N/A

PURCHASING: Cooperative Purchasing.

MBE / WBE: N/A

This contract will provide for continued cellular and radio communications equipment and service for various City departments. The City has used these services since 1998. The cellular and 2-way radio features provided by Sprint Solutions (formerly Nextel Communications) have been used effectively by the following departments:

- Emergency Medical Services paramedics use the units to communicate with command staff, local hospitals, and the emergency communications center.
- Austin Energy crews use the units to communicate with each other and the command center while performing maintenance as well as outage restoration work.
- Austin Fire Department inspectors and engineers use the units to communicate with each other instantly and share information regarding safety hazards.
- Solid Waste Services personnel use the units to receive work orders directly from the 311 call center.
- Aviation Department personnel use the units in their noise monitoring program and also to communicate with each other and with non-public safety personnel in emergency situations.
- Austin Police Department personnel use the units to verify birth dates of suspected underage



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drinkers by wirelessly sending and receiving driver's license data between the units and the Department of Public Safety database.

- Austin Eastside Story (AES) bus drivers and counselors use the units to communicate with the dispatcher as they drive children from schools to AES sponsored after-school programs.

Sprint Solutions is under contract with H-GAC to supply this equipment and service statewide as a result of a competitive bidding process. Utilizing the H-GAC contract provides for volume discount pricing.