

AGENDA



Thursday, March 25, 2010

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 41**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of three contracts through the Texas Local Government Purchasing Cooperative (BuyBoard) with HEIL OF TEXAS, Houston, TX, for the purchase of five automated side-loading, four rear-loading, and three dead-end refuse collection bodies in an amount not to exceed \$1,255,290.88; LONGHORN INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS, LTD., Austin, TX, for the purchase of eight truck cab and chassis in an amount not to exceed \$1,172,281; and RUSH TRUCK CENTER, Houston, TX, for the purchase of three truck cab and chassis in an amount not to exceed \$240,400.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$2,667,971.88 is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Capital Budget of the Solid Waste Services Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Sharon Patterson, Senior Buyer/972-4014

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). This contract is a Cooperative Purchase; therefore, it is exempted under Chapter 791 of the Texas Local Government Code and no goals were established for this solicitation.

These contracts are for the purchase of 12 refuse collection bodies and 11 refuse truck cab and chassis. The refuse collection bodies will be mounted onto the truck cab and chassis to form complete refuse collection trucks. The twelfth truck cab and chassis is available on and will be purchased through the Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments Cooperative Purchasing Program with a separate contract.

Austin Energy's Climate Protection team and Fleet 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.

These chassis are powered with engines capable of burning biodiesel (B20) fuel. In line with Austin Climate Protection Program goals, B20 provides an approximate 25% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions versus using gasoline and an approximate 5% reduction versus using petro-diesel.

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.

SWS reviewed 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 SWS, 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 contract with Longhorn International Trucks, Ltd. is for the purchase of six replacement and two new truck cab and chassis manufactured by Crane Carrier Company, Tulsa, OK. The contract with Rush Truck Center is for the purchase of three replacement truck cab and chassis manufactured by Nissan Diesel America, Irving, TX. The contract with Heil of Texas is for the purchase of three replacement and two new automated side-loaders, four replacement rear-loaders and three replacement dead-end refuse collection bodies manufactured by Heil, Fort Paine, AL.

The rear loading equipment will be used to support the yard trimmings and brush and bulky programs.

The automated side-loading equipment has hydraulically-operated arms which reach out and grasp the refuse container set out at the curb by the homeowner, dumps the contents into a hopper on the truck, and then sets the refuse container back down on the curb. This process is accomplished by only one operator who remains in the truck at all times. SWS personnel have determined that automated refuse collection is faster and more cost-effective than conventional methods.

The dead-end equipment has a narrower footprint and a shorter overall length. This enables the trucks to be used in areas where alleys and narrow streets preclude the use of conventional refuse collection vehicles.

Longhorn International, Heil of Texas, and Rush Truck Center are contracted through BuyBoard to supply various types of vehicles and equipment 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 vehicles and equipment on order.