Thursday, March 25, 2010

Fleet Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 23

Subject: Approve an ordinance accepting Texas Commission on Environmental Quality grant funds in the amount of \$198,090; amending the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Fleet Services Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance 20090914-002 to appropriate these grant funds; and amending the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Fleet Services Capital Budget of Ordinance 20090914-003 to appropriate these grant funds for auxiliary power units.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$198,090 is available from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Emissions Reduction Incentive Grants Program. The grant period is from August 10, 2009 through May 31, 2011.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Gerry Calk, Fleet Officer, 974-1541

Boards and Commission Action: Related to Item #37.

This action amends the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Special Revenue Fund and Capital Budget of Fleet Services in the amount of \$198,090.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has approved the City of Austin's Fleet Services to be the recipient of an Emissions Reduction Incentive Grant through the Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP). The grant funds will be used in an emissions reduction project which includes the purchase and installation of 31 auxiliary power units (APU) manufactured by Xtreme Power. These APUs will be installed on the Austin Transportation Department's field-service vehicles.

Accepting the grant funds will bring the City closer to the citywide objective of obtaining carbon neutrality by 2020. The projected reduction in Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) when using the APUs in the 31 field-service vehicles is 6.7859 tons per year, for a total NOx reduction of 47.5013 tons for the seven year service life of the APUs.

The APUs eliminate engine idling and reduce emissions, noise, and fuel consumption by providing an alternative source of electric power to power-tools and equipment needed in the performance of services.

As a condition of receiving the grant, TCEQ requires a service life of seven years. The service life is the length of time that the City must use, monitor, and report on the usage of the APUs to TCEQ. The APUs are covered by a manufacturer-approved seven-year extended warranty. This extended warranty will ensure that the APUs remain functional throughout the service life required by the grant.

The total project cost is \$224,271 of which the TCEQ grant covers \$198,090. The Austin Transportation Department will fund the additional \$26,181.

In addition to the purchase and installation of the 31 APUs, the project will also include a custom proprietary monitoring and reporting software system, regular data downloads resulting in a bi-annual usage report, the integration of the APU onto the vehicle's service body, and APU operator training.