

Thursday, June 24, 2010

## Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 61

**Subject:** Authorize award and execution of a contract through the Texas Local Government Purchasing Cooperative (BuyBoard) with WHEELED COACH INDUSTRIES, Winter Park, FL, for the purchase of one ambulance in an amount not to exceed \$161,746.67.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Vehicle Acquisition Fund.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required

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

**MBE/WBE:** This Cooperative Purchase is exempt from the MBE/WBE Ordinance. This exemption is in compliance with Chapter 2-9C of the City Code (Minority–Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this contract.

This contract is for the purchase of one replacement Ford F450 Cab and Chassis with Wheeled Coach ambulance body to be assigned to Emergency Medical Services Department.

The Austin Climate Protection Program team and Fleet staff 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.

This vehicle is powered with an engine 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.

Departments 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 the departments, and the proposed equipment was reviewed by the Fleet Service Center Manager to ensure the specified vehicle is appropriate for the use.

This replacement vehicle has 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.

Wheeled Coach Industries is contracted through BuyBoard to supply various types of medium-duty vehicles and equipment to other public entities 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 on order.