## Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 73

**Subject:** Authorize award and execution of a contract through the Texas Local Government Purchasing Cooperative (BuyBoard) with METRO FIRE APPARATUS SPECIALISTS, INC., Houston, TX for the purchase of structural rescue equipment for the Austin Fire Department in an amount not to exceed \$74,096.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Homeland Security Grant Program.

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

For More Information: Colleen Athey, Buyer I, 972-4012

**MBE/WBE:** This cooperative contract is exempt from the MBE/WBE Ordinance. This exemption is in compliance with Chapter 2-9D 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.

The Austin Fire Department has received grant funding for the purchase of Paratech structural collapse rescue equipment.

This equipment will be used by Austin Fire Department personnel to shore up and secure any building structure that has been compromised and is in jeopardy of collapse. The structural collapse equipment is made of different components such as brace struts, wall plates, and connection pieces. These components can be assembled on scene to help support a failing structure so rescue operations can be completed safely. This equipment can be reused and is transported to a fire scene by either a trailer or fire apparatus.

Metro Fire Apparatus Specialists, Inc. is under contract with BuyBoard to supply various types of rescue support systems 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 equipment order.