

AGENDA



Thursday, July 29, 2010

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 70**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments Cooperative Purchasing Program (HGAC) with POSTON EQUIPMENT SALES, Pearland, TX for the purchase of two brush chippers in an amount not to exceed \$52,669.37.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$35,537.57 is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Capital Budget of the Watershed Protection Department. Funding in the amount of \$17,131.80 is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating Budget of the Aviation Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Sharon Patterson, Senior Buyer, 972-4014; Roxanne Jackson, 974-1918

MBE/WBE: This Cooperative Purchase 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.

This contract is for the purchase of two new brush chippers to be assigned to the Watershed Protection and Development Review Department and the Aviation Department.

Austin Energy's Climate Protection Program and Fleet have worked together to develop a vehicle and equipment 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 equipment, and service application. These criteria are applied to all equipment submitted to Fleet for purchase.

The brush chippers are 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.

The equipment in this RCA has been recommended for purchase utilizing a process that involves the Fleet Officer, affected Department Directors, and Assistant City Manager (ACM). ACM approval is required for all new additions to the City's fleet prior to any requests being made to the Purchasing Office.

The brush chippers will be used for the routine clean-up of trees and brush along fence lines, utility poles, and roadways. The chippers will also be used after heavy storms to clean up downed trees, tree limbs, and other vegetation debris.

Poston Equipment Sales is contracted through HGAC to supply various types of equipment statewide as a result of a competitive bidding process. Utilizing HGAC contracts provides for volume discount pricing as well as the earliest opportunity to get the City's equipment on order.