Thursday, August 19, 2010

## Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 28

**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 two ambulances in an amount not to exceed \$330,000.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Amended General Fund (One-Time Critical).

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is not required.

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

**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. Related to Item #10.

This contract is for the purchase of two new Ford F450 cab and chassis with mounted Wheeled Coach ambulance bodies that will 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.

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.

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.