

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council

Item ID:

55865

Agenda Number

17.

Meeting Date:

March 31, 2016

Department:

Purchasing

Subject

Authorize award and execution of a 36-month contract with ATMOS RESEARCH AND CONSULTING to provide an evaluation of climate change impacts on hydrology in an amount not to exceed \$116,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$75,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2015–2016 Operating Budget of Austin Water. Funding for the remaining 31 months of the original contract period are contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing
Language:

Professional Service

Prior Council
Action:For More
Information:

Danielle Lord, Corporate Purchasing Manager, 512-974-2298

Boards and
Commission
Action:

April 12, 2016 – Recommended by the Austin Integrated Water Resource Planning Community Task Force on a 7-0 vote with Member's Zerrenner and Bartee absent.
April 13, 2016 - Unanimously recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission on an 11-0 vote.

Related Items:

MBE / WBE:

This contract was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the goods and services required for this contract, there were insufficient subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established.

Additional Backup Information

The contract will provide professional consulting services to provide climate and hydrologic projections to assist in evaluating the potential impact of climate change on water supply and demand as part of the Integrated Water Resources Plan (IWRP). ATMOS Research and Consulting, including Dr. Katherine Hayhoe, has been performing the scientific study since 2009 and has provided high-resolution downscaled climate projections using statistical methods. Dr. Hayhoe is considered one of the foremost climate researchers in the United States and is lead author of the 2014 Third U.S. National Climate Assessment. The contract will provide climate change projections only obtainable from atmospheric scientists and climate researchers who run high resolution global climate models on super computers at universities.

The Austin Water Resource Planning Task Force (AWRPTF) was created by Council in April 2014 to evaluate the City's water needs. One of the key recommendations of the AWRPTF was the development of an IWRP, including a recommendation to evaluate water supply under various climate scenarios as well as to assess the impact of climate change on water demand.

Without this contract Austin Water would not be able to fulfill the recommendation of AWRPTF to assess the impact of climate change on water supply and demand.