



**To:** Zero Waste Advisory Commission

**From:** Bob Gedert, Department Director, Austin Resource Recovery

**Date:** January 8, 2014

**Subject:** **Materials Exchange Program**

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The purpose of this item is to obtain a favorable ZWAC recommendation for the City Council to authorize award and execution of a contract with the **U.S. Business Council on Sustainable Development** to develop and administer the City of Austin Materials Exchange Program with an initial term of 24 months in an amount not to exceed \$415,899 and with four (4) 12-month extension options not to exceed \$156,577 per option. The total potential contract amount, including extension options, will not exceed \$1,042,127.

***Purpose and Background***

The City of Austin, Austin Resource Recovery Department, intends to implement a local materials exchange program whereby a wide variety of reusable and recyclable materials generated by businesses and public sector/not-for-profit entities can be efficiently connected to other local and regional entities that can use those items as raw material for their own product manufacturing or other operational needs. The program will consist of an on-line tool for making the connections as well as a facilitator who will actively engage organizations to create an active (i.e., not passive) exchange program. The materials exchange/byproduct synergies concept was approved by City Council through adoption of the *Austin Resource Recovery Master Plan* in December 2011. The program is consistent with the provisions of Chapter 6, *Waste Reduction*, and Chapter 15, *Economic Development Opportunities*.

***Contract Timeline***

July 29<sup>th</sup> – City of Austin Issues RFP 1500 SDC0008  
August 5<sup>th</sup> – Pre-Proposal Conference  
September 6<sup>th</sup> – Proposals Received  
November 13<sup>th</sup> – Finalist Interviews  
January 8<sup>th</sup> – ZWAC Recommendation  
January 30<sup>th</sup> – Target City Council Date

***Staff Recommendation***

Staff recommends City Council authorization of award and execution of a 24-month service contract with **U.S. Business Council on Sustainable Development**, Austin, Texas, for the Austin Materials Exchange Program in an amount not to exceed \$415,899 with four (4) 12-month extension options not to exceed \$156,557 per extension option.