



Recommendation for Water & Wastewater Commission

Commission Meeting Date:	April 13, 2016
Council Meeting Date:	April 21, 2016
Department:	Purchasing
SUBJECT	
Authorize award and execution of a 36 month contract with ATMOS RESEARCH AND CONSULTING to provide consulting services for 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 period is contingent upon funding in future budgets.	
Purchasing Language:	Professional Services
Prior Council Action:	N/A
For More Information:	Danielle Lord, 512-974-2298; Gary Gold, 512-972-0139
Boards and Commission Action:	April 12, 2016- To be reviewed by the Austin Integrated Water Resource Planning Community Task Force. April 13, 2016- To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.
MBE/WBE:	This contract is exempt from the City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established.

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. 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 by the AWRPTF to evaluate water supply under various climate scenarios as well as to assess the impact of climate change on water demand as part of the IWRP.

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.