

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	59157	Agenda Number	69.
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Meeting Date:	6/23/2016	Department:	Watershed Protection
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Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a 36-month interlocal agreement with THE LOWER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY for water pollutant analysis services in an amount not to exceed \$810,000, with three 12-month extension options in an amount not to exceed \$270,000 per extension option, for a total amount not to exceed \$1,620,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$22,500 is available in the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Operating Budget of the Watershed Protection Department. Funding for the remaining 9 months of the original contract period and extensions is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	June 24, 2010 - Council approved the negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement between the City of Austin and The Lower Colorado River Authority on a 7-0 vote.
For More Information:	Chris Herrington, 974-2840
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

This contract provides water testing services on an as needed basis for pollutants and toxic substances in environmental samples taken by the City, including natural surface water and groundwater, drinking water, wastewater, and wastewater sludges.

The City has water quality monitoring requirements under state law, under Council directives, under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Plan for Barton Springs Pool, and under a Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) permit, to determine actions protective of the environment and the citizens of the City of Austin. The three primary water quality sampling programs include:

- a) baseflow monitoring program of surface waters (creeks and lakes),
- b) groundwater monitoring program (springs), and

- c) stormwater runoff monitoring during rainfall events for data used to develop and support City code, evaluate Best Management Practices (BMP) performance, and to meet state and federal permit requirements.

In addition, sampling is required by future unanticipated spills, releases or other events that may impact the environment, to obtain data to be used for determination of enforcement actions.

Ongoing sampling programs have quality assurance/quality control requirements which may vary depending on whether the data is submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for use in statewide water quality assessments or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for support of endangered species conservation programs.

Regulatory guidance and method improvements have increased the requirements for laboratory performance measures, and the scope of capabilities required by the City is beyond in-house capabilities. Contract laboratory services are thus required to meet quality assurance objectives and to obtain timely analysis results.