

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: October 4, 2018

Item Number: **017**

Purchasing Office

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Duke's Root Control Inc., to provide application of diquat dibromide for root control, for a term of three years in an amount not to exceed \$240,000. (Note: Sole source contracts are exempt from the City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

Lead Department	Purchasing Office.
Fiscal Note	Funding in the amount of \$80,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Operating Budget of Austin Water. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.
Purchasing Language	Sole Source.
For More Information	Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov <mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov> or to the buyer, Georgia Billela, at 512-974-2939 or Georgia.Billela@austintexas.gov <mailto:Georgia.Billela@austintexas.gov>.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action	September 12, 2018 - Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission on an 8-0 vote, with Commissioners Parton, Michel and Moriarty absent.
Client Department(s)	

	Austin Water.
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Additional Backup Information:

The contract will provide application of diquat dibromide (Razorooter II) for use in root control for approximately 50,000 linear feet of the Austin Water wastewater mains annually. When tree roots grow inside wastewater lines there is the potential of clogging the lines and causing wastewater overflows. The application of Razorooter II is a preventative measure to help reduce sanitary sewer overflows. The product has been subject to extensive testing and received approval from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Texas Structural Pest Control Board for use in wastewater lines. Austin Water has used this product previously in a multiyear pilot study, as part of the Austin Clean Water Program, and found no detection of product in any samples collected or observable negative impacts to trees in the vicinity of the treatments.

Razorooter II is patented by the manufacturer Sewer Sciences Inc., and Duke's Root Control Inc. is the only licensed applicator authorized to perform the application in Texas. There are no other comparable chemicals currently available in the market.

The requested authorization amounts for this contract were determined using departmental estimates of planned treatments and historical spend.