



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-3192, **Agenda Item #:** 10.

10/21/2021

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Merrick Industries, Inc. to provide liquid carbon feeders, in an amount not to exceed \$80,945.

(Note: Sole source contracts are exempt from the City Code Chapter 2-9D Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

Lead Department

Purchasing Office.

Client Department(s)

Austin Water.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Operating Budget of Austin Water.

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 Billy Toler, at 512-974-2054 or William.Toler@austintexas.gov <<mailto:William.Toler@austintexas.gov>>.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

October 6, 2021 - Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission on an 8-0 vote, with Commissioners Atallah and Turrieta off the dais.

Additional Backup Information:

The contract will provide liquid carbon feeders at Davis Wastewater Treatment Plant to enable plant operators to properly dose polyaluminum chloride by receiving the carbon slurry from bulk storage tanks via two carbon feed pumps. These feeders are vital to the process and the current feeders are approximately 40 years old and have required extensive maintenance in the last two years to keep them running.

The liquid carbon feeder system is manufactured and fitted in form and function solely by Merrick Industries, Inc. and is exclusive to Merrick Technologies, Inc. Austin Water estimates that using any other system will require between 1.8 million and five million dollars to replumb the designated area to accommodate alternately sourced feeders. The liquid feeders and accessories contain unique characteristics necessitating a sole source purchase.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment, Safety.