

Posting Language

Recommend approval to negotiate and execute a contract for the application of diquat dibromide for root control with Duke's Root Control Inc., for a term of three years in an amount not to exceed \$439,484.

MBE/WBE

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

Lead Department

Financial Services Department

Client Department

Austin Water Assistant Director of Engineering Services, Charles Celauro

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$85,455 is available in the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Operating Budget of Austin Water. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Purchasing Language:

Sole Source.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

April 17, 2024 - To be reviewed by the Water & Wastewater Commission.

Additional Backup Information:

The contract will provide application of diquat dibromide (Razoroooter II) for use in root control for approximately 50,000 linear feet of 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 Razoroooter II is a preventative measure to help reduce sanitary sewer overflows.

Razoroooter 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 spending.

If a contract is not secured, it will diminish the ability of Austin Water to effectively remove tree roots from the City's wastewater lines and increase the potential of these lines clogging as well as the possibility of wastewater overflows. The use of Razoroooter II has proven to be an effective preventative tool in reducing sanitary sewer overflows.