

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Malcolm Matthews, Director, Parks and Recreation Department

THROUGH: Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

COPIES: Melissa B. Vossmer; Finance; Management and Budget; Legal; File

SUBJECT: Ordinance Authorizing a Supplemental Environmental Project Agreement with

the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for the River Walk Pump

Conservation Project

DATE: August 7, 2003

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance authorizes entering into a Supplemental Environmental Project Agreement with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, accepting \$8,562.00 for the River Walk Pump Conservation Project and establishing a project budget for salary and materials expenses.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has implemented a program in which it may consider to allow a respondent in an administrative enforcement matter to contribute to supplemental environmental projects that are approved by the Commission. In this case, BFI Waste Systems of North America, Inc. was found in violation of a TCEQ regulation and as part of a settlement with TCEQ has voluntarily contributed funds that will be utilized in a supplemental environmental project (SEP).

TCEQ and the Parks and Recreation Department developed a SEP that will utilize the funds to convert eight water pumps on maintenance barges used along the San Antonio River Walk from gasoline to EPA certified low-emission natural gas engines. The water pumps are currently used along the San Antonio River Walk for purposes such as landscaping. SEP monies will be used for the labor and materials necessary to convert the pumps to natural gas. The work will be accomplished in-house by the River Operations mechanical staff. The project will improve air quality by reducing carbon monoxide emissions and will also reduce the chances that fuel will spill into the San Antonio River.

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The Parks and Recreation Department will maintain records of the SEP program and will submit semi-annual reports regarding the SEP program. It is anticipated that the fuel conversion will be completed within one year.

POLICY ANALYSIS

Participation in the TCEQ SEP program has been accomplished before in a program coordinated by the Public Works Department. The conversion to low-emission natural gas engines, whenever feasible, is an established goal of the City's environmental policy.

FISCAL IMPACT

TCEQ will provide \$8,562.00 to the City for the SEP program. Salary costs are estimated at \$2,623.24 and materials cost will be \$5,938.76. The General Fund will have savings of \$1,760.00 as a result of decreased fuel costs.

COORDINATION

This item has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office, Environmental Services Department and Finance Department.

SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS

A Discretionary Contracts Disclosure Form is not required.

Malcolm Matthews,

Director of Parks and Recreation

Mélissa B. Vossm**é**r, // Assistant City Manager

Approved:

Terry M. Brechtel