

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM
ALAMODOME**

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Michael Abington, Director, Alamodome
THROUGH: Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager
COPIES: Roland Lozano, Assistant to the City Manager; File
SUBJECT: Sportfield, L.L.C. Turf Lease Agreement
DATE: November 13, 2003

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

An ordinance authorizing an agreement with Sportfield L.L.C. in the amount of \$184,000 for the lease of an in-filled turf system for use in the Alamodome for the period November 16, 2003 through January 16, 2004; and optional lease period from April 25, 2004 through September 18, 2004, authorizing the expenditure of \$34,950 for necessary costs associated with the installation and multiple conversions of the turf system including the rental of 25,000 lb and 20,000 lb forklifts, the rental of two Laymore Sweepers, the fabrication of two sets of rack and roller systems and solid rubber tires to retrofit existing Alamodome forklifts.

Staff recommends approval.

BACKGROUND

The AstroTurf currently used in the Alamodome is 11 years old and has had 125 conversions contributing to deteriorating seams and zippers. The average life of AstroTurf is 7-9 years. Big X and Big XII college football conference coaches and officials as well as high-school football coaches whose teams frequently play in the Alamodome have expressed serious concerns about the safety of the playing field.

Staff is currently developing specifications and funding options for the purchase of a new turf system for the Alamodome. The latest technology in artificial playing surfaces consists of synthetic fibers in-filled with non-organic material that provides a stable playing surface. This innovative concept has been widely accepted by the professional and amateur sports communities.

The Dallas Cowboys held Training Camp in the Alamodome in 2002 and 2003 and contracted with Sportfield L.L.C. to install its in-filled turf system in the Alamodome on a temporary basis for the camp.

POLICY ANALYSIS

This fall and winter a number of football games will be played in the Alamodome that cannot be compromised by using the AstroTurf. These include several high-school football playoff and state championship games in November and December, the MasterCard Alamo Bowl in

December, the U.S. Army All-American Bowl in January and a potential professional soccer game.

Although the Sportfield system in its current configuration does not fulfill the portability and conversion needs of the Alamodome and cannot be considered as a permanent turf solution, with some modifications to Alamodome equipment and with the rental of additional equipment the Sportfield in-filled turf can be utilized for upcoming events.

Accordingly, in order to satisfy the short-term turf requirements, staff has negotiated an agreement with Sportfield to lease its in-filled turf system and associated conversion services from November 2003 through January 2004. Additionally, Sportfield has agreed to an option, if required by the Alamodome, to make the turf system available from April 2004 through September 2004.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funds in the amount of \$400,000 that were set-aside for the Pan Am Games in the Community and Visitors Facilities Fund have been committed for the purchase of a new turf system for the Alamodome in FY 02-03 and carried forward into FY 03-04.

Lease of Sportfield Turf system and associated conversion services November 16, 2003 – January 16, 2004	\$184,000
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Ancillary costs:

Fabricate Racks and Rollers	13,790	
Solid Rubber Forklift Tires	3,860	
Laymore Sweeper Rental	2,400	
25,000 lb. Forklift Rental	9,000	
20,000 lb. Forklift Rental	<u>5,300</u>	
		<u>\$34,350</u>
		\$218,350


COORDINATION

This item has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office, Asset Management and the Purchasing Department.

SIGNATURES


Michael Abington, Director
Alamodome

APPROVED


Roland Lozano
Assistant to the City Manager


Terry M. Brechtel
City Manager