

DENVER BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Board Item: V-A-7

Meeting Date: September 8, 2010

Tabulation of Bids for High Efficiency Plumbing Fixtures

Action by Consent

Action

Information

Condo and townhome residents are less likely to take advantage of the high-efficiency toilet rebates offered by Denver Water's conservation program because they usually do not pay a water bill directly. In 2009 and 2010, Denver Water worked with 4 HOAs that enrolled owners/tenants in a program to replace 1,400 inefficient toilets with high efficiency models. The cost per toilet was less than the current \$125 rebate available because Denver Water bought the toilets in bulk. The balance of the \$125 per toilet was provided to the associations to assist with installation costs. The associations handled the delivery and installation of the toilets and Denver Water staff verified installation. The program was well received and indoor water use at those properties is down by more than 30 percent, with savings to both water and sewer bills. Denver Water's average cost for the program was approximately \$2,500 per acre-foot.

Due to the high participation and water savings achieved at the previous properties, more than 15 similar associations have requested this program. As a second phase to this, Denver Water will supply high-efficiency toilets (HETs) for retrofit projects at Multi-Family Properties and Home Owner's Associations (HOAs). Denver Water anticipates that approximately 3,000 toilets will be replaced under this program in 2010 and 2011.

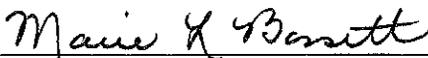
Requests for bids were sent to 17 potential bidders and faxed to eight Chambers of Commerce. Denver Water received five responses, as per the attached tabulation. The low bid submitted by Wholesale Specialties is, on average, 23 percent lower than the previous contract. This was the first time this brand of toilet was listed as an approved manufacturer in our bidding documents.

Funds are included within Rebates and Incentives (MPC 4EA0021) for this expenditure, which encompasses the high efficiency toilets and material costs. The total amount budgeted for 2010 in this MPC is \$5,057,505.86, with \$1,628,213.24 available. Funds will also be included in the 2011 Budget for this expenditure.

Recommendation:

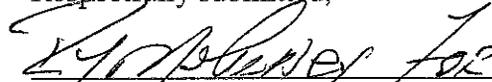
It is recommended the Board authorize award of Contract No. 13171A to Wholesale Specialties to furnish approximately 3,000 toilets and various high efficiency materials, for the contract period October 1, 2010 through December 31, 2011, for a total contract amount of \$300,000.00. This award is based on lowest price, compliance with specifications and acceptable delivery.

Approvals:



Marie E. Bassett, Director of Public Affairs

Respectfully submitted,


James S. Lochhead, CEO/Manager

Angela C. Bricmont, Director of Finance