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News

Hutto awarded 2 solid waste grants

By *Traviss Thomas*
Wednesday, September 24, 2008 12:22 PM CDT

The City of Hutto has been awarded two solid waste grants totaling \$52,200 through the Capital Area Council of Governments Solid Waste Program. The grant funds will be used to support a one-day Household Hazard Waste (HHW) and cleanup event, environmental education and local enforcement officer training.

CAPCOG's Solid Waste Program recently approved over \$400,000 in grant funds from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to 16 Capital Area communities in support of solid waste management, recycling, and clean-up efforts. In July, the CAPCOG Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) scored and recommended 21 grant applications to the CAPCOG Executive Committee for funding. The CAPCOG Executive Committee approved those 21 projects during the August Executive Board meeting.

This year's awardees include Blanco, Burnet, Fayette, Travis and Caldwell Counties and cities of Austin, San Marcos (2), Bertram, Burnet, Johnson City, La Grange, Cedar Park (3), Granite Shoals, Hutto (2), Martindale and Georgetown.

CAPCOG was also awarded a grant to fund the Regional Environmental Task Force Operations Coordinator who provides environmental law training to combat environmental crimes. Project applications were sought from eligible cities, counties, school districts, and special districts with solid waste responsibilities.

Solid waste disposal fees collected by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) generate funds for these projects. They are the only state funds available for solid waste projects to local governments. The solid waste funds are intended for local and cooperative activities consistent with the strategic objectives of CAPCOG's Regional Solid Waste Management Plan.

CAPCOG is the state designated planning agency for solid waste management issues in the region. CAPCOG provides technical assistance to local governments on solid waste issues, as well as continuing education opportunities for local governments and solid waste professionals.

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