



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

CC: Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator

FROM: Jodi Royal-Goodwin, Housing Administrator

DATE: September 6, 2018

RE: Request to Authorize the Issuance of a Purchase Order for the Purchase of Heat Treatment Equipment

INTRODUCTION: The Muscatine Municipal Housing Agency (MMHA) received three quotes for heat treatment equipment for use by staff in addressing bed bug infestations. The lowest price for the necessary equipment was with Convectex LLC at \$9,695.96. Council approved \$10,000 to purchase such equipment in the FY18-19 Public Housing Operating Budget.

BACKGROUND: Unfortunately, bed bugs have seen a resurgence across the country in the past decade, and Muscatine has not been immune. For MMHA the issue primarily impacts the Clark House, 100 unit complex for those 50 years of age or older. While bed bugs are not a health issue, they are a nuisance to many and HUD requires the housing authority to address the issue. As a result we have expended approximately \$30,000 each of the past 2 fiscal years treating infestations.

When MMHA first began experiencing outbreaks the only treatment option in the community was chemical, though the recommended and most effective method of treatment is heat. Chemical treatment often requires tenants to get rid of personal items and furniture depending upon the degree of infestation. With heat treatment everything in the space is treated.

RECOMMENDATION / RATIONALE: It is recommended City Council, acting as the Board of Commissioners for the Muscatine Municipal Housing Agency, approve issuance of a purchase order to Convectex LLC in the amount of \$9,695.96 to purchase heat treatment equipment.