

## AGENDA



Thursday, April 19, 2007

**Communications and Technology Management  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 3**

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**Subject:** Approve a resolution authorizing the City to participate in the Texas Radio Coalition to plan and develop a statewide wireless interoperable communication system with local and regional government entities, and authorizing the City Manager to take necessary action.

**Fiscal Note:** There is no anticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**For More Information:** Peter Collins, Chief Information Officer, 974-2344

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This RCA is requesting authorization for the City to participate with other governmental entities within the State of Texas in a cooperative effort to facilitate the planning, development and financing of a statewide interoperable wireless communication system. Interoperable communications for public safety agencies is critical to enhancing preparedness and response capabilities when dealing with natural disasters or other emergency situations. The purpose of the Coalition is to lay the groundwork for development of such a system. TXRC is partnering with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Governor's Office to achieve this goal. Individual governmental entities within the State of Texas operate various public safety and public service wireless communication systems. These entities recognize the need for interagency communication, interoperability and cooperation, which would facilitate statewide integration of these systems resulting in shared information flow.

Membership in the Texas Radio Coalition is open to all government wireless communication system owners/operators within the state. Current participants include representatives of government owned and operated wireless communication systems that geographically encompass the majority of Texas' population in the following areas: Houston/Harris County and eight surrounding counties, Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, San Antonio, Austin/Travis County/Williamson County, East Texas to Waco, Bryan/Brazos County/Washington County, the Middle Rio Grande Development Council area in southwest Texas along the border with Mexico, and the Lower Colorado River Authority service area ranging from central Texas to the Gulf coast.