



MEMORANDUM

TO: Marc Ott, City Manager

FROM: Greg Canally, Budget Officer

DATE: March 6, 2008

SUBJECT: Austin Travis County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center
(ATCHMHMR)

Item # 42 on the March 6, 2008 Council Agenda is to approve a resolution directing the City Manager to determine the feasibility of providing the use of the building located at 403 East 15th Street, formerly used as the Ronald McDonald House, for a transitional housing facility with a crisis stabilization center, and negotiate and execute a lease with the Austin Travis County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center for the operation of the center.

The Public Works Department and Neighborhood Housing and Community Development (NHCD)/Austin Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) will share the lead in determining the feasibility of the property for ATCMHMR use. This effort is estimated to require a total of 20 to 30 hours per week for two existing NHCD/AHFC staff members to direct the activities involved in obtaining and evaluating the rehabilitation scope of work.

If the property is feasible, existing staff from these two departments, as well as existing staff from Austin Energy, Austin Water Utility, and others, will work with ATCHMHMR to ensure completion of the facility. Also, it should be noted that no other Council priorities or projects will be interrupted or slowed from this effort.