

## AGENDA



Thursday, May 8, 2008

**Health and Human Services  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 18**

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**Subject:** Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Health and Human Service Department Operating Budget Travis County Reimbursed Fund of Ordinance No. 20070910-003 to appropriate revenue from Travis County in the amount of \$24,482 and to increase operating expenditures in the amount of \$24,482 for summer youth employment stipends.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding in the amount of \$24,482 is available from the increased expense reimbursement revenue from Travis County.

**Fiscal Note:** A fiscal note is attached.

**For More Information:** Vince Cobalis, Asst. Director, Human Services, 972-5011; Stephanie Hayden, Family and Youth Services Manager, 972-5017; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

**Boards and Commission Action:** Related to Item # 19.

**Prior Council Action:** Approved Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget, September 10, 2007.

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The City of Austin and Travis County have entered into several Interlocal agreements governing the joint operation of the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) Summer Youth Employment Program. Pursuant to these agreements, the City (1) Incurs operating expenses on behalf of Travis County; (2) Submits an invoice to Travis County reflecting operating expenses incurred; and (3) Receives reimbursement for the expenses incurred upon review and processing by Travis County.

HHSD expenses and reimbursements on behalf of Travis County for youth stipends are budgeted in the HHSD Travis County Reimbursed Fund. Although there was discussion about changing this process several years ago, Travis County is not able to set up payroll systems that will allow them to assume responsibility for this function (1) without a substantial impact on the number of youth served; and (2) major disruptions in the quality of service needed to process payroll for the number of youth in the program. In order for youth to be paid for summer employment, the City of Austin HHSD will continue to pay the youth and be reimbursed by Travis County.

This budget amendment increases HHSD's Travis County expense and revenue reimbursement from \$2,633,397 to \$2,657,879. The additional \$24,482 reimbursement from Travis County will make available additional funds for youth stipends to meet the increased federal Minimum Wage which will take effect on July 24, 2008. Performance measure expectations will not be increased.

The program will assist youth and youth-with-disabilities in gaining valuable work experience and job readiness skills that are required to become self sufficient and productive. The youth will work a 5-week session under the supervision and mentorship of City, County and other eligible employers. These employers will provide guidance to the youth as they gain knowledge of work cultures, ethics and etiquette.