Thursday, May 8, 2008

## Health and Human Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 19

**Subject:** Approve negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 6 to the Interlocal Agreement between the CITY OF AUSTIN and TRAVIS COUNTY to fund and administer the Summer Youth Employment Stipend program for the period October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008 for an annual amount not to exceed \$473,811 (\$294,329 City; \$179,482 County).

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding in the amount of \$248,106 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget for the Health and Human Services Department. Funding in the amount of \$46,223 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget for the Human Resources Department. Funding in the amount of \$179,482 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department Travis County Reimbursed Fund.

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

**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 # 18.

**Prior Council Action:** Approval of SYEP Interlocal Agreement with Travis County, February 13, 2003; Amendment No. 1 to SYEP Interlocal Agreement with Travis County, June 17, 2004; Amendment No. 2 to SYEP Interlocal Agreement with Travis County, March 13, 2005; Amendment No. 3 to SYEP Interlocal Agreement, with Travis County, July 27, 2006; Amendment No. 4 to Interlocal Agreement with Travis County, May 3, 2007. Approval of Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget, September 10, 2007.

This program provides job readiness training and summer employment for youth ages 14-17, in collaboration with private and public sector employers and community-based organizations. The purpose of the program is to provide opportunities for youth development through meaningful work experiences that promote economic self-sufficiency, good citizenship and healthy lifestyles, with special emphasis on high-risk youth and youth with disabilities. Youth are trained in career exploration and job readiness skills, conflict resolution, personal health and environmental awareness, and other employment related issues.

In FY 2003-2004, Travis County began providing the staff and funding for administration of this program. In addition, the City provides in-kind support by processing the job applications and payments for youth participants through the City payroll system. In FY 2006-2007, the County increased the stipend funding in order to employ additional youth.

In 2007, the City and County administratively amended the contract (Amendment No. 5). This amendment added funds for youth stipends due to the increase in the Federal Minimum Wage, effective July 24, 2007 (City \$7,071; County \$3,477). The City and County are both adding funds to the contract in 2008 for the next increase in the Federal Minimum Wage from \$5.85 to \$6.55 to be effective July 24, 2008. These funds will provide jobs for 750 youths to include 115 youth with disabilities during two 5-week summer sessions.