

Thursday, August 7, 2008

Health and Human Services RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION Item No. 15

Subject: Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$37,465 grant funds from the TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES, INFECTIOUS DISEASE INTERVENTION AND CONTROL BRANCH, Austin, TX; and amending the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Health and Human Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20070910-003 to appropriate \$37,465 for translation services and expedited laboratory services.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the Texas Department of State Health Services, Infectious Disease and Control Branch. The grant period is October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008. No City match is required.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Shannon Jones, Acting Director, 972-5410; Wilmia Perez, Program Manager, 972-6216; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

Prior Council Action: Approval of the 2007-2008 Operating Budget, September 10, 2007; Approval of additional grant funds in the amount of \$180,315, October 10, 2007 (Ord. No. 20071018-005).

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) allocates federal funds to the City of Austin Health Human Services Department (HHSD) for the provision of comprehensive health screening services to newly arriving official refugees. As the local health agency in the area, HHSD has received funds annually for this program since 1995. Currently, all services are provided using grant funds only.

HHSD requested and was granted an increase of \$37,465 by DSHS for Fiscal Year 2007-2008. Of the total, \$30,965 will be used to increase contracted expedited laboratory services and \$6,500 for contracted telephone-based language interpretation services. No increase in performance measures is anticipated or expected.

The funding addresses the HHSD's Strategic Plan and goals by protecting, preventing, and monitoring the community for preventable diseases by focusing on high-risk populations.

Statement Required by Corporate Budget Office: All department grant application requests are reviewed by the Budget office prior to submission to ensure that the grant minimizes the financial impact to the City.