

AGENDA



Thursday, August 28, 2008

**Police
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 25**

Subject: Authorize the negotiation and execution of a two-year Interlocal Agreement with Travis County in the amount of \$40,000 for one Assistant District Attorney position, which is to be devoted to handling criminal matters in the Downtown Business District.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is contingent upon available funds in future budgets.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Chief of Staff David Carter/974-6866

Since 2003, the City of Austin and Travis County have shared the cost of one Assistant District Attorney position, which is devoted to handling criminal matters in the Downtown Business District. The current Interlocal agreement, which has been in effect since 2003, will expire on September 30, 2008. City staff has met with Travis County personnel the past year to review current procedures, recommended changes to those procedures, and methods of cost allocation. City staff concluded that it would be appropriate to enter into a new Interlocal Agreement with Travis County. The Agreement has been prepared through a negotiation process.

The proposed Interlocal agreement would be effective on October 1, 2008, for a term of two years from its effective date, and would automatically renew annually for two additional years unless terminated by either party.

Under the Agreement, the City will pay the County a total of \$20,000 annually for the two-year period of the agreement. If the city and county opt to renew, the City will pay the County \$20,000 annually for up to two additional years.

The Assistant District Attorney will work primarily on crimes of violence, career criminal, narcotics and nuisance abatement matters in cooperation with the City and its Police Department. The Assistant District Attorney designated as the Downtown Business District Attorney shall provide services designed to eliminate the illegal activity of known criminals; eliminate activities related to the sale and distribution of narcotics; and eliminate nuisance activities from properties within the City in accordance with applicable laws. The Attorney's services also include advising officers of the Austin Police Department on legal matters associated with defining and preparing a prosecutable case.