

## AGENDA



Thursday, August 28, 2008

**Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 22**

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**Subject:** Approve execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the University of Texas at Austin, College of Communication, to provide a small business development needs assessment study in an amount not to exceed \$120,000.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding in the amount of \$120,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Operating Budget of the Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office.

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

**For More Information:** Rosalinda Jalifi, EGRSO Assistant Director, 974-7739

**MBE/WBE:** This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). This contract is a Cooperative Purchase; therefore it is exempted under Chapter 252.022 of the Texas Local Government Code and no goals were established for this solicitation.

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The City's Small Business Development Program (SBDP) has developed a wide array of services since its inception in 2000. Most of these services were created based on the recommendations of a small business development needs assessment study that was completed in 2002.

The 2002 study gathered information directly from small business owners on the services and resources they needed to be successful. This interlocal agreement with the University of Texas, College of Communication (UT), will provide updated information on the development needs of small business owners.

UT will use a variety of techniques to gather information from small business owners on the services and resources they presently need in order to succeed. UT will also review the services and resources provided by SBDP, and identify any gaps in meeting the needs identified by the small business owners. UT will report the study's findings to the SBDP, including recommendations for closing the gaps. SBDP will use the study findings and UT's recommendations as a guide to structuring its services over the next five years.