

## AGENDA



Thursday, September 25, 2008

**Health and Human Services  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**Item No. 27**

**Subject:** Approve the execution of Interlocal Agreements for certain public health services between the City of Austin and the Cities of Village of the Hills, Lakeway, Manor, Sunset Valley, Volente, and Westlake Hills for one-year terms beginning October 1, 2008, with options to renew for up to four one-year renewal terms.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** \$80,605 in revenue is included in the Fiscal Year 2008 - 2009 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department.

**Fiscal Note:** There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. No fiscal note is required.

**For More Information:** Philip Huang, M.D., M.P.H., Medical Director, 972-5408; David B. Lopez, Manager, HHSD Environmental and Consumer Health Unit, 972-5687; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

**Prior Council Action:** Council approved the Fiscal Year 2009 Operating Budget on September 8, 2008.

**BACKGROUND**

Since October 1, 2005, the City of Austin has entered into Interlocal Agreements with certain incorporated municipalities under which the city provides public health services including permitting and inspection of food establishments, swimming pools, custodial care inspections and general environmental complaint investigation. The municipalities listed above have expressed interest in continuing these Interlocal Agreements. Payment to the City of Austin for services provided will be through the fees for permits and services from the business operators in these municipalities.

Contracts will be effective for an initial one-year term and may be renewed annually for up to four years. Under these agreements the City of Austin will (1) Administer and enforce ordinances regulating food establishments (including plan review, permit issuance, inspections and complaint investigations); (2) Provide for the inspections of custodial care facilities; (3) Administer and enforce ordinances regulating swimming pools (including plan review, permit issuance, inspections and complaint investigations); and (4) Assist in the preparation of civil or criminal proceedings and make staff available for testimony in court proceedings in the event suit is brought. The City will have no responsibility to initiate or prosecute any civil or criminal suit on any complaint or case.

The municipalities will have the following responsibilities (1) Authorize personnel of the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department to act as their health officials in investigating and enforcing municipalities' ordinances, (2) Adopt ordinances and provide Austin with certified copies to be used to enforce these agreements, and (3) schedule and conduct any hearings required by ordinances or by state law.

**PERFORMANCE**

HHSD Related Departmental Goal: Minimize the public's exposure to health and environmental hazards.

The proposed six Interlocal Agreements will generate the following number of inspections monitored by department performance measures:

Inspection of approximately 169 food establishments

Inspection of 15 pools

Inspection of 10 temporary events

Inspection of 25 custodial care facilities for annual licensing