

AGENDA



Thursday, November 6, 2008

**Fire
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 19**

Subject: Authorize the execution of an Interlocal Agreement for Automatic Aid Assistance between the City of Austin and Travis County Emergency Service District Number 9 (TCESD# 9), under which TCESD# 9 will provide First Responder fire protection and emergency service response to certain areas of the City of Austin beginning January 1, 2009, for an annual amount not-to-exceed \$812,500 with nine one-year renewal options in an annual amount not to exceed \$1,421,865.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding for the initial one-year term (calendar year 2009) and renewal terms is contingent upon available funding in future budgets. Related to Item #24.

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

Prior Council Action: June 18, 2008; October 23, 2008.

The City of Austin and TCESD# 9 have had interlocal first responder contracts in effect for some City areas since the 1980's. The current Automatic Aid Agreement was executed in 2006 and amended in 2008 to establish options to renew, and to set a not-to-exceed annual contract amount of \$100,000 per one-year term. The City areas covered by the current agreement include the Woods of Westlake, Woods of Westlake Renaissance, West Rim, Parkstone and Stratford Drive.

A new Automatic Aid Agreement must be executed in order to address fire protection and emergency service response for certain additional areas that may be annexed in the future, such as the Lost Creek Commercial, Las Cimas Commercial and Peninsula areas. The new agreement would also address compensation for providing services to the Lake Austin properties directly adjacent to the Peninsula area, which are proposed to be included in the area which receives full municipal services and for which property taxes will be due.

The new Automatic Aid Agreement was approved by the TCESD #9 Board on September 16, 2008.

The compensation amounts are calculated to generate the same tax revenue the ESD would have received if the areas were not annexed, and the agreement is written in such a manner that the compensation amount will be reduced if one or more of the new areas are not annexed. The replacement of tax revenue is consistent with AFD practice in previous agreements.

The maximum annual compensation amounts in the agreement are based on a tax rate of 10 cents per \$100 assessed valuation although the current TCESD #9 tax rate is 8 cents per \$100. The payment for each year of the agreement will be based on the actual TCESD #9 tax rate, and the tax rate for ESD's is capped by state law at 10 cents per \$100.