Thursday, January 29, 2009

Parks and Recreation RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 17

Subject: Approve an ordinance accepting \$15,000 in grant funds from the Austin Community Foundation; and amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Parks and Recreation Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20080908-002 to appropriate \$15,000 for the Totally Cool Totally Art After School Program operated by the Cultural Affairs Division of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$15,000 is available from the Austin Community Foundation. The grant period is January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009. No City match is required.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached

For More Information: Angela Means, Division Manager, 974-6712

The Totally Cool Totally Art (TCTA) After School Program was created in 1996 as part of the City's Social Fabric Initiative to offer positive after school activities for youth. Modeled as a free, after school, arts education program, TCTA maintains a strong mentoring component both before classes as well as during classes where teens work along side professional artists. As teens connect with role models in the community, the program reinforces their positive choices, gives them new experiences, builds respect and trust, keeps them out of trouble during high risk after-school hours, and improves their skills in creative expression, communication, teamwork and arts appreciation.

TCTA will serve approximately 2000 students per year with over 1000 hours of free after school arts programming from October through April at fifteen recreation centers.

TCTA, which is operated by the Cultural Affairs Division of the City's Parks and Recreation Department (PARD), will utilize \$7,000 of this grant towards staff payroll in order in order to extend the program by one month. The balance of this grant fund will allow PARD to purchase necessary art supplies and nutritious snacks for the participants throughout the year, abiding by PARD's Child Nutrition Policy.

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