



Memorandum

DATE: February 6, 2009

TO: Mayor and Council Members
City Manager

FROM: Rodney Gonzales, Acting Director
Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office (EGRSO)

RE: Ratification of Skillpoint Alliance contract – February 12, 2009 Council Agenda

This is to provide you with information regarding the Request for Council Action (RCA) for the ratification of a contract with Skillpoint Alliance for the continuation of the Community Technology and Training Centers (CTTC) Program.

The City of Austin partnered with Skillpoint Alliance in 1998 to develop the CTTC program. Through the program, Skillpoint Alliance provides computers and classes designed to provide technology, telecommunications, and computer literacy skills. The CTTC program serves over 650 clients annually including classes offered in Reagan and Travis High Schools. The extra computers provided to these schools through this program allow more high school students to learn technology skills. During the evening hours, these same classes are offered to adults. The technology skills provided through this contract increase the clients' employability and expand their workforce skills, both of which are important to a vibrant economy.

Skillpoint Alliance has worked closely with the City of Austin in creating, developing, and enhancing the CTTC program. This close collaboration has helped Skillpoint Alliance become a nationally recognized best practices model of technology training. Because of the historical relationship with the community and existing network with other companies and organizations, the Skillpoint Alliance contract has been declared a Professional Service exempt from State Code 252.

Although funding for the CTTC program was approved by Council within the Sustainability Fund FY 2008-09 budget, this budgetary action did not constitute approval of the contract. Since October 1, 2008, Skillpoint Alliance has continued to administer the program to ensure no student was left unserved especially in these economic times. The provision of services since October 1, 2008 necessitates this RCA for Council ratification of the contract with Skillpoint Alliance.

Thank you and please contact me if you have question or require additional information.

Signed: _____

Acting Director, EGRSO