

AGENDA



Thursday, June 11, 2009

**Health and Human Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 21**

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment Number 8 to the Interlocal Agreement among the City, Travis County and the Travis County Juvenile Board to increase City funding for the Truancy Court Program to provide chronic truancy intervention by \$1,313 for a total annual amount not to exceed \$38,828, with one remaining 12-month renewal option in an amount not to exceed \$38,828, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$151,417.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$38,828 is included in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget of the Health and Human Services Department. The term of the contract is October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009. Funding for renewal options is contingent on available funding in future budgets.

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

For More Information: Vince Cobalis, Asst. Director, Human Services, 972-5011; Stephanie Hayden, Family and Youth Services Manager, 972-5017; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023,

Prior Council Action: Council approved Truancy Court Interlocal Agreement, January 11, 2007, for the contract period of October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007 with three 12-month renewals. Council approved the 2008-2009 Operating Budget, September 8, 2008.

Truancy Court is a partnership among the City of Austin, Travis County, the Travis County Juvenile Board and the Austin Independent School District. On January 11, 2007, the Council approved an Interlocal Agreement with Travis County for the Truancy Court program with three (3) renewal options for a total of four years. The Fiscal Year 2008-2009 agreement was the second renewal option for this contract. The \$1,313 increase represents the 3.5 percent social service contract increase approved by the City Council during the Fiscal Year 2009 budget process.

The Truancy Court program is designed to intervene with students who are chronically truant at their home school. It provides supervision, referrals to community services and regular review of a student's progress towards reduced truancy. For the 2008-2009 school year, Truancy Court is providing services at Fulmore, Martin, Mendez and Pearce Middle Schools by utilizing an onsite court process. Students are given an option of participating in this deferred prosecution program or having their case heard through a formal adjudication process. Upon successful completion of the program, the court dismisses all charges against the juvenile.

There is no expected increase in performance resulting from the increased funding.