

AGENDA



Thursday, July 23, 2009

**Health and Human Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 37**

Subject: Approve an ordinance accepting \$67,586 in grant funds from the TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT; and amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Health and Human Services Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20080908-002 to appropriate \$67,586 for the delivery of basic needs, case management, employment support and preventive health service to low-income residents.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Community Services Block Grant. 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: Vince Cobalis, Asst. Director, Human Services, 972-5011; Cathleen Rodriguez, Healthy Neighborhood Services Manager, 972-5092; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

Prior Council Action: Council approved amendment to Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget, February 26, 2009.

The City of Austin receives an annual formula-based Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). The CSBG provides administrative support to a network of local Community Action Agencies that provide services to very low-income residents. The City is considered the Community Action Agency for Travis County. The grant program provides funding for the delivery of basic needs, case management, preventive health and employment support services to low-income residents through the City's six (6) neighborhood centers.

The City's Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) received notice of additional funds in the amount of \$67,586 from TDHCA. The increase represents the difference between the amended grant appropriation of \$836,229 and the grant award amount of \$903,815.

The additional funds will be used for the purchase of school supplies and the delivery of one-time direct financial assistance for utility payments and rental assistance to clients of the neighborhood centers. A fiscal agent for the one-time direct financial assistance will be procured through a competitive request for application process. It is anticipated that an additional 750 unduplicated clients will be assisted with basic needs services.

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