

AGENDA



Thursday, August 27, 2009

**Police
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 34**

Subject: Authorize execution of amendment #1 to the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Austin and Travis County to reimburse the Travis County Sheriffs Office for peace officer overtime hours incurred while working on Human Trafficking cases as part of the Austin/Travis County Human Trafficking Law Enforcement Task Force.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Special Revenue Fund of the Austin Police Department from the Bureau of Justice Assistance "Law Enforcement Response to Human Trafficking" grant program.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is not required.

Prior Council Action: October 18, 2007 original interlocal approval.

This action would authorize the execution of amendment #1 to the Interlocal Agreement with Travis County to allow for reimbursement by the City for overtime hours incurred by Travis County Sheriff's Office peace officers working on Human Trafficking cases as part of the Austin/Travis County Human Trafficking Law Enforcement Task Force. This amendment extends the interlocal agreement through November 30, 2009.

"Human Trafficking" means deceiving or coercing people under threat of harm, usually for the purpose of compelling them to engage in forced labor or sexual exploitation. Human Trafficking investigations form the law enforcement basis of this Agreement. Human Trafficking must not be confused with human smuggling; which is when an individual voluntarily seeking out a smuggler, pays a fee in exchange for transport to a destination, and is free to do as one wishes upon reaching his destination.

Under this Agreement, the City agrees to reimburse Travis County for peace officer overtime costs, not to exceed \$40,000, for the period of December 1, 2007 through November 30, 2009 for Travis County Sheriff's Office peace officer overtime hours for Human Trafficking cases investigated by the Task Force. The overtime rate charged by the County will be consistent with the actual rate received by the officer assigned to the investigations. The County agrees to make available one (1) Deputy Sheriff to work jointly with Task Force law enforcement agencies in cooperation with the Office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas in the investigation and prosecution of Human Trafficking cases. Funding for the overtime costs comes from the Bureau of Justice Assistance "Law Enforcement Response to Human Trafficking" grant program.