

AGENDA



Thursday, September 24, 2009

**Emergency Medical Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 36**

Subject: Authorize execution of an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the City and Travis County to provide ground emergency medical services in areas of Travis County outside the City's corporate limits and support services to Travis County's STAR Flight program for a 12-month term beginning on October 1, 2008, in exchange for payment of \$11,035,274 by Travis County.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding from Travis County in the amount of \$11,035,274 is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Operating Budget of the Emergency Medical Services Department, as amended.

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

For More Information: Ernesto Rodriguez, Director, 972-7148

The EMS Department has been providing emergency medical services to Travis County for over thirty years. The most recent Interlocal Agreement with Travis County for ground EMS services was approved by City Council on December 2, 2004, for Fiscal Year 2004-2005 and was amended and renewed for three subsequent fiscal years. The last renewal term expired on September 30, 2008. EMS has continued to provide services to the County.

This Agreement addresses the City's provision of ground EMS services to those areas of Travis County that are located outside the City of Austin's corporate limits. The monthly ground EMS fee to be paid to the City will increase to \$911,181.39 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 from the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 rate of \$896,864.25. Travis County reimburses the City for these ground services through a flat monthly rate that corresponds to the annual operating budget for EMS. The proposed agreement adjusts this monthly fee for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 to correspond with the adopted operating budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

This agreement also addresses City's support of the County's STAR Flight air ambulance program. Previously, STAR Flight services provided by the City were described in a separate agreement. As of October 1, 2008, all City employees that provide STAR Flight services on the helicopters became County employees. The City continues to provide medical direction, call-taking, flight dispatch, billing and medical supplies to STAR Flight, as described in this new agreement. This agreement requires County to pay City \$101,097 for support services provided to STAR Flight.

The agreement authorizes up to two additional 12-month renewal terms.