

AGENDA



Thursday, October 15, 2009

**Health and Human Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**
Item No. 9

Subject: Approve an ordinance accepting \$50,000 in grant funds from the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AND CITY HEALTH OFFICIALS, Washington, D.C., and amending the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Health and Human Services Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20090914-002 to appropriate \$50,000 to fund the implementation of a project to integrate climate change initiatives and public health programs at local health departments.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$50,000 is available from the National Association of County and City Health Officials. The grant period is August 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: David Lurie, Director, Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department, 972-5010; Shannon Jones, Public Health Assistant Director, 972-5410; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

The National Association of County and City Health Officials has allocated funds to the City of Austin to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment, build and strengthen a coalition of community partners, and provide training to local health department staff regarding the long-term consequences of climate change on public health. The project will consist of a collaboration of agencies working on raising the public's awareness of the Austin Climate Protection Program and the Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) by educating healthcare providers and the community on the links between public health and greenhouse gas emissions and climate change. For example, the grant program will establish a steering committee of health departments from Austin and surrounding counties to review surveillance data. The project will support the Austin Climate Protection Program's mandate to engage the community in behavioral change that will reduce local and regional contributions to global climate change.

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.

PERFORMANCE

Related Department Goal
Minimize public exposure to health and environmental hazards.

Outputs/Outcomes

Conduct two internal trainings on the role of HHSD in local climate change initiatives.

Develop up to three pilot projects in response to steering committee analysis of surveillance data.