

AGENDA



Thursday, October 22, 2009

**Health and Human Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Item No. 17

Subject: Approve an ordinance accepting \$27,280 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 \$27,280 to participate in a nationwide public health accreditation beta test.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the National Association of County and City Health Officials. The grant period is September 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010. No city match is required.

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's Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) as one of 19 local health departments selected nationwide to be part of the public health accreditation beta test. The beta test will be managed by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) in preparation for the rollout of the voluntary national public health accreditation program in 2011.

Participation as a beta test site will provide HHSD with

- (1) Technical assistance regarding how to meet the standards and measures.
- (2) Technical assistance identifying priority areas(s) for improvement, and implementing quality improvement efforts.
- (3) Guidance materials to assist in selecting quality improvement consultants.
- (4) Access to information sharing, networking and training through a series of webcasts and meetings in which sites can share strategies for meeting accreditation standards and implementing quality improvement (QI), documentation and lessons learned. Information will be synthesized and shared with future applicants for national accreditation.

The grant funds are made available to offset local health department costs related to staff time, consultant time, travel to other trainings/meetings, and QI initiatives.

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

The project will support the department in all of its goals and its overall mission to work in partnership with the community to promote health, safety, and well being.

Completion of the beta test process will be the main deliverable for the grant.