

AGENDA



Thursday, October 14, 2010

**Austin Energy
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 2**

Subject: Approve negotiation and execution of an agreement with the Harvest Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000, and an Interlocal Agreement among the City of Austin, Travis County and the Austin Independent School District (AISD), in an amount not to exceed \$25,000, to hold a series of African American Men and Boys Conferences during the 2010-2011 school year at selected AISD middle and high schools.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$100,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact.

For More Information: Jeff Vice, Director, Local Government Relations at 322-6087

The Harvest Foundation, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, works cooperatively with local school districts and institutions of higher education to identify the barriers preventing academic achievement and to eliminate the academic achievement gap between African American and Caucasian students.

The City began providing funding for this effort in fiscal year 2009, both directly to the Harvest Foundation in the amount of \$75,000, as well as through the Austin Independent School District (AISD) as part of a partnership with AISD, the City and Travis County. Both the City and Travis County contribute \$25,000 each to help support the program.

Harvest Foundation Executive Director Michael Lofton and his staff assist AISD to develop strategies designed to reduce the dropout rate and mitigate underachievement in academic performance of African American males and females. This funding will help provide a series of conferences throughout the school year, as well as the maintenance of a database that helps to track and analyze key performance indicators related to participation and progress over time.