

AGENDA



Thursday, January 13, 2011

**Health and Human Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 10**

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Health and Human Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20100913-002 by adding a 0.5 full-time equivalent position, resulting in a total of 11 full time equivalent positions for the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant Program.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding for a 0.5 full-time equivalent position increase is available in the amount of \$23,722 from the Texas Department of State Health Services, Community Preparedness Section. The grant period is August 1, 2010 through July 31, 2011. No additional match is required.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: David Lurie, Director, HHSD, 972-5010; Philip Huang M.D., Medical Director, 972-5408; Janet Pichette, Program Manager, 972-5486; Charles Kemp, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

The Texas Department of State Health Services is allocating funds for the continuation of Public Health Emergency Preparedness activities defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and categorized to address public health preparedness goals: (1) Increase the use and development of interventions known to prevent human illness from chemical, biological, and radiological agents, and naturally occurring health threats; (2) Decrease the time needed to classify health events as terrorism or naturally occurring (in partnership with other agencies); (3) Decrease the time needed to detect and report chemical, biological, or radiological agents in tissue, food, or environmental samples that cause threats to public health; (4) Improve the timeliness and accuracy of information regarding threats to public health as reported by clinicians and through electronic early-event detection in real time to those who need to know; (5) Decrease the time to identify causes, risk factors, and appropriate interventions for those affected by threats to public health; (6) Decrease the time needed to provide countermeasures and health guidance to those affected by threats to the public health; (7) Decrease the time needed to restore health services and environmental safety to pre-event levels; (8) Increase the long-term follow-up provided to those affected by threats to public health; and (9) Decrease the time needed to implement recommendations from after-action reports following threats to public health.

The addition of the 0.5 FTE, a Marketing Representative, will help to continue public health emergency preparedness planning and response activities in Austin and Travis County. Ongoing funding is anticipated in the next grant period.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute to the funding of this position. It will be funded with grant funds which were previously approved and appropriated. When the grant funds expire, the Health and Human Services Department's need for the position will be evaluated and the position may be eliminated.