

AGENDA



RCA	Austin City Council	Item ID	6399
Meeting Date:	5/12/2011	Department:	Economic Growth and Redevelopment

Subject

Approve an ordinance accepting \$1,901,040 in federal pass-through grant funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Capital Area Council of Governments; and amending the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20100913-002) to appropriate \$1,901,040 to support the City of Austin's participation in the Sustainable Communities Planning Program.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$1,901,040 is available in pass-through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Sustainable Communities Planning Program. Match of \$616,000 is required by the City of Austin through the contract with International Business Machines.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	August 19, 2010 - Council authorized application for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant.
For More Information:	Kevin Johns, Director, EGRSO / 974-7802; Greg Kiloh, Program Manager, EGRSO / 974-7836
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

This grant is for the agreement to participate with the Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG), City of Austin, and International Business Machines Corporation Sustainable Places Analytics Tool for the purpose of planning. The Central Texas Sustainability Consortium is led by the CAPCOG, and also includes the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO), Envision Central Texas, and the cities of Austin, Round Rock and San Marcos. Additional members include: University of Texas at Austin Center for Sustainable Development, Capital Metro Transportation Authority, Austin Community College, Texas State University, Housing Works Austin, and the Lone Star Rail District. These funds will be used locally to:

- Develop an analytical network of tools and models to help the region better plan and manage sustainable growth, and better measure the effect of its development and infrastructure investments;
- Support the successful development of regional Activity Centers (as defined in the CAMPO 2035 long range transportation plan) and sustainable neighborhoods through demonstration projects such as site specific plans,

- market studies, code and ordinance enhancements, and other pre-development initiatives; and
- Improve regional collaboration to identify and help close gaps in existing local plans in ways that will help Central Texas achieve desired region-wide sustainability outcomes in areas such as housing, energy and water use, economic growth, education, and social services in which key decisions are and need to be made at the local level.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010, funded the Sustainable Communities Initiative to improve regional planning efforts that integrate housing and transportation decisions, and increase the capacity to improve land use and zoning. The Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program will support metropolitan and multi-jurisdictional planning efforts that integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation, and infrastructure investments in a manner that empowers jurisdictions to consider the interdependent challenges of economic competitiveness and revitalization; social equity, inclusion, and access to opportunity; energy use and climate change; and public health and environmental impact.