

## A G E N D A



## Recommendation for Council Action

|                     |         |      |               |      |
|---------------------|---------|------|---------------|------|
| Austin City Council | Item ID | 7787 | Agenda Number | 101. |
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|               |           |             |                                    |
|---------------|-----------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Meeting Date: | 7/28/2011 | Department: | Telecommunications and Reg Affairs |
|---------------|-----------|-------------|------------------------------------|

## Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement with Travis County for the use of one governmental access channel.

## Amount and Source of Funding

## Fiscal Note

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Purchasing Language:          |   |
| Prior Council Action:         |   |
| For More Information:         | Rondella M. Hawkins, Manager, Office of Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs; (512) 974-2422 |
| Boards and Commission Action: |   |
| MBE / WBE:                    |   |
|                               |   |

On August 20, 1996, the City Council approved the current Interlocal Agreement with Travis County that authorizes use and management of one governmental access television channel. This agreement expires on August 12, 2011, in conjunction with the expiration of Time Warner Cable's municipal franchise.

Time Warner Cable will convert to a State Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority (SICFA) to continue providing cable service within the City as authorized by Chapter 66 of the Texas Utilities Code. State law governing the SICFAs issued for the City's three cable television and video providers (Time Warner Cable, Grande Communications, and AT&T) requires them to continue providing seven access television channels to the City for public, educational, and governmental programming.

The purpose, terms, rights and duties are as follows: The purpose of the agreement is to allocate one of the City's access channels to Travis County for governmental programming. Under the agreement, the City will designate one

access channel to Travis County. Travis County agrees to operate and program the channel as a governmental channel for no less than eight hours per day, at least 20% being non-repeat programming. The agreement runs with the state franchise issued to each cable television or video provider under Chapter 66 of the Texas Utilities Code, and may be terminated by mutual agreement, with the access channel rights reverting to the City.

The proposed Interlocal Agreement will update and replace the current agreement and reauthorize the use and management of one of the seven access television channels by Travis County.