

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	10184	Agenda Number	19.
Meeting Date:	10/20/2011		Department:	Neighborhood and Community Development
Subject				
<p>Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$2,500,000 in grant funds from the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Program of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development; and amending the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20110912-005) to appropriate \$2,500,000 for the City's LeadSmart Program to be used to provide lead testing and lead hazard control services.</p>				
Amount and Source of Funding				
<p>Funding is available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Healthy Home and Lead Hazard Control. Funding in the amount of \$781,514 is provided as a local match using Community Development Block Grant funds and in-kind services.</p>				
Fiscal Note				
<p>A fiscal note is attached.</p>				
Purchasing Language:				
Prior Council Action:				
For More Information:	Contact Elizabeth A. Spencer, Director, 974-3182.			
Boards and Commission Action:				
MBE / WBE:				
Related Items:				
Additional Backup Information				

This action will approve the acceptance of \$2,500,000 in grant funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to be used for lead testing and lead hazard control services. This award will benefit children under the age of six that have tested positive for lead poisoning.

Over the next three years approximately 150 houses occupied by low-income households will be rehabilitated to eliminate dangerous lead and other hazards. This funding will also stimulate private sector investment in lead hazard control and educate the public about the dangers of lead-based paint.

The program requires a staff of 3.1 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. There are 3.1 existing FTEs available to the program. Therefore, no additional FTEs are required.

The City of Austin has received funds to abate lead in prior years. The LeadSmart Program began in 2003, when the City received its first grant award of \$1,871,741 from HUD for lead remediation services. A total of 117 houses occupied by low-income households received services between February 1, 2003, and December 31, 2005. In 2007, HUD awarded \$3,761,662 to Austin to restart the Lead Hazard Control Program. From this grant award, a total of 200 houses occupied by low- to moderate-income households received lead remediation services between March 2007 and February 2011. With this new grant, the City anticipates assisting an additional 150 homes between October 2011 and October 2014.