

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council

Item ID

16054

Agenda Number

29.

Meeting Date:

6/28/2012

Department:

Emergency Medical Services

Subject

Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$5,848 in grant funds from the Capital Area Trauma Regional Advisory Council, and amending the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Emergency Medical Services Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund Ordinance 20110912-005 to appropriate \$5,848 for supply costs related to the Emergency Medical Service's Child Passenger Safety Seat Program.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available from the Capital Area Trauma Regional Advisory Council for the grant period of May 1, 2012 to August 31, 2012. No match is required.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

**Purchasing
Language:**

**Prior Council
Action:**

**For More
Information:**

Ernesto Rodriguez, Director 512-972-7148

**Boards and
Commission
Action:**

MBE / WBE:

Related Items:

Additional Backup Information

The current FY2011-2012 Emergency Medical Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund includes \$5,000 from Capital Area Trauma Regional Advisory Council for the EMS Child Passenger Safety Seat Program. EMS received a grant award in the amount of \$5848 from the Capital Area Trauma Regional Advisory Council. The award is \$848 more than anticipated.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, motor vehicle injuries are the leading cause of death among children up to age 17 in the U.S. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that the proper use of a child safety seat reduces the risk of fatal injury by 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers in passenger cars. However, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's research shows that three out of four child safety seats are improperly installed.

The City's EMS Department currently has multiple monthly car seat check events all over Austin and Travis County. At these events, trained EMS staff will examine child safety seats currently in place; educate caregivers on the proper way to secure their children in a motor vehicle; explain the Texas seat belt/booster seat law; and provide child safety seats to those who are in need.

EMS provides child passenger safety seats and certified child safety seat technicians. This certification is a nationally recognized program under the direction of Safe Kids Worldwide and the National Highway Traffic Safety Association. The EMS program includes partnerships with two local non-profits, Safe Kids Austin and Scott and White's Safety Stop, as well as other public safety agencies including the Travis County Sheriff's Office.

The acceptance of these funds will allow EMS to purchase child safety seats to distribute at these seat check events.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute to the grant.