

## A G E N D A



## Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council - Commissioners Court Meeting	Item ID	36744	Agenda Number	16.
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Meeting Date:	10/2/2014	Department:	Neighborhood and Community Development
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## Subject

Approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for grant funding up to \$1,000,000 from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, for the Fiscal Years 2014-2017 Colony Park Sustainable Community Initiative Program to assist in creating and implementing an economic development program at the master-planned, Austin Housing Finance Corporation-owned tract in the Colony Park neighborhood.

## Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration Fiscal Year 2014 Economic Adjustment Assistance, for the grant period of three years from the date funds are obligated. A fifty percent match is required, which will be met through the value of the property and/or in-kind services.

## Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Contact Elizabeth A. Spencer, Director, 974-3182; or Erica Leak, Housing Policy and Planning Manager, 512-974-9375.
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

## Additional Backup Information

In 2011, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded a \$3 million Challenge Grant to the City of Austin to create a master plan for 208 acres of publicly-owned land in the Colony Park neighborhood. The goal of the initiative is to create a master plan that integrates and reflects the needs and interests of the surrounding community while incorporating best practices in sustainable development. In order to achieve this goal, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development (NHCD) staff must create and implement an economic development program that supports new opportunities for medical, pharmacy, retail, and other neighborhood uses not currently available in Colony Park. Additionally, the program must support forward-thinking building strategies, new technologies, and the start-up and expansion of locally-owned enterprises at the master planned site.

As the three-year community planning process comes to an end (in December 2014), NHCD seeks the involvement of a private-sector developer offering the best possible development terms in alignment with the program objectives

and goals. To set the stage for development, NHCD requests the approval of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant funding, which will be awarded to projects supporting innovations in sciences and healthcare, public-private partnerships, environmentally sustainable development, and economically distressed communities. Deadline for the application is October 17, 2014.