A G E N D A Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Item ID 43738 Agenda Number 4.

Meeting Date: 4/23/2015 Department: Communication & Public Information

Subject

Authorize execution of a 12-month interlocal agreement with the Austin Independent School District and the Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority for the establishment of and participation in the Conversation Corps in an amount not to exceed \$15,000, with two 12-month extensions in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 per extension, for a total amount not to exceed \$45,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$15,000 is available in the fiscal year 2014-2015 Communications and Public Information Office's operating budget.

Purchasing Language: Prior Council Action: For More Information: Doug Matthews, Chief Communications Director / (512) 974-2231 Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action: MBE / WBE: Related Items:

Additional Backup Information

In mid-2014, the Communications and Public Information Office (CPIO) began discussions with Austin Independent School District (AISD), Capital Metro, and Leadership Austin to develop a community-based engagement program that would utilize trained volunteers to moderate neighborhood-based discussions on topics critical to the three partner agencies. The program is designed to:

- build community engagement capacity throughout Austin;
- increase the civic infrastructure and social capital in Austin;
- increase the capacity of all agencies to get feedback from individuals that may otherwise be disengaged; and
- increase the capacity of all agencies to gain regionally-distributed feedback as part of their engagement programs.

This interlocal agreement formalizes the relationship among the three partner agencies to guide and fund the pilot program, and assigns Leadership Austin as the non-profit administrator of the program. Because this is an interlocal agreement among public agencies, Council is required to take action authorizing the City Manager or his designee to enter in to the agreement.

Leadership Austin has already trained 48 facilitators for the program, representing all Council districts.