

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	48589	Agenda Number	6.
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Meeting Date:	9/10/2015	Department:	Neighborhood and Community Development
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Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a one-year contract with AUSTIN TENANTS' COUNCIL to administer the Tenants' Rights Assistance Program for community education and information about tenant protections in an amount not to exceed \$288,729.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Operating Budget of the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office. Funding is contingent on the release of Fiscal Year 2016 federal funds from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Community Development Block Grant.

Fiscal Note

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

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	September 25, 2014 – Council approved a one-year service agreement to expire September 30, 2015.
For More Information:	Contact Elizabeth A. Spencer, Director, 512-974-3182; or Fernando Hernandez-Garza, Neighborhood Development Program Manager, 512-974-3114.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

If approved, funding will be provided for a one-year contract to the Austin Tenants' Council (ATC). Services to be provided by ATC under the contract include: mediation and related services to assist at least 499 clients to resolve housing code issues with their landlords; provide mediation services to at least 87 eligible clients in general housing matters; and investigate complaints of violations of the Fair Housing Act. The contract term shall be from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016.

Tenants' Rights Assistance provides services to tenants residing in the Austin city limits. Objectives of this program include: 1) facilitating mediation services between landlords and low-to moderate-income tenants to complete health and safety related repairs in rental units, to help maintain reasonable habitability standards; 2) providing direct counseling and technical assistance to low-income renters regarding tenant/landlord issues; and 3) identifying fair housing complaints that can be investigated and may assist in resolving, reducing or minimizing discriminatory housing practices.