

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting: June 28, 2018

Item Number: **047**

Public Health

Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston for conducting community health assessments in Montopolis and Del Valle for a 12-month period beginning August 1, 2018, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

Lead Department	Austin Public Health.
Fiscal Note	Funding in the amount of \$75,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget.
For More Information	Stephanie Hayden, Director, 512-972-5010; Adrienne Sturup, Interim Assistant Director, 512-972-5167; Vella Karman, Social Services Policy Manager, 512-972-5064; Estella Kirscht, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5039.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action	On July 27, 2016 the Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission recommended funding for the Montopolis and Del Valle Community Health Assessment in the amount of \$150,000, approved on a 9-0 vote, Ramirez recused.

Additional Backup Information:

Approval of this item will authorize Austin Public Health to negotiate and execute an agreement with The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UT) to conduct community health

assessments (CHAs) in the communities of Montopolis and Del Valle.

A community health assessment identifies the status of health and community assets that can be harnessed to address health needs. Inter-sectoral, community-led approaches to health planning and improvement hold the potential to reduce health disparities and advance population health via enhanced community collaboration and community health action. Community health assessments represent a key initial step for health planning aimed at enhancing community health.

In 2011, Austin/Travis County began the first iteration of the CHA and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) process for the community at large, and referred to this effort as the Austin/Travis County Community Health Planning. A robust community health assessment was conducted, which led to the development of CHIP. In 2016, Austin/Travis County embarked on a second CHA/CHIP process. The CHA concluded in 2017. The CHIP is expected to conclude in 2021.

Previous neighborhood-specific CHA's such as the Rundberg Community Health Assessment (2012), have provided important input for Austin/Travis County in effectively targeting programs and initiatives in this area. In support of previous and current community health promotion efforts in Austin/Travis County, Austin Public Health is planning two separate community health assessments in partnership with the Del Valle and Montopolis communities.

The UT School of Public Health, through the UT Health Science Center, is uniquely qualified to conduct these community health assessments. UT personnel have demonstrated commitment to planning and conducting this work through a lens of cultural and linguistic appropriateness, and a spirit of collaboration with established local organizations and community members. UT faculty and staff have worked on multiple related projects and are skilled in qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis. UT School of Public Health- Austin is one of six campuses that comprise the UT Health School of Public Health. The Austin campus was established in 2006, and has had an active teaching, research, and community service mission since then. They are currently in discussion with the Southeast Health and Wellness Center to set up a field office in the Montopolis community through which they will be providing public health practicum opportunities for students and other services to the community.