

RESOLUTION NO. 20060831-034

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The Council directs the City Auditor, with input from the City Manager as well as public safety departments and public safety associations, and upon approval of the Council Audit and Finance Subcommittee, to solicit, negotiate and execute a contract with consultants having expertise in public safety operations and administration to conduct an independent assessment of public safety in the City of Austin. In addition to negotiating and executing this contract, the City Auditor will provide oversight of the consultants' work and quality assurance for the consultants' outputs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

This assessment should focus on the economy and efficiency of public safety operations; management structure and organization of public safety; and community indicators and trends with respect to public safety outcomes. This assessment must include:

1. Review of budgetary practices, overtime practices, cost trends, staffing levels, deployment strategies, and administrative support systems;
2. Development of explicit best practice criteria and performance levels against which to benchmark or compare Austin's public safety operations;
3. Evaluation of relevance and reliability of public safety performance measures;

4. Identification of cost drivers for public safety and barriers and opportunities to reducing costs of public safety;
5. Identification and estimation of costs for optional service delivery approaches (e.g. overtime vs. permanent staffing); and
6. Development of explicit best practice criteria and performance levels against which to benchmark or compare Austin's Police Oversight programs/functions.

ADOPTED: August 31, 2006

ATTEST: 
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk