Thursday, July 29, 2010

## Police RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 46

**Subject:** Authorize negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to provide access to the Crash Reporting and Analysis for Safer Highways (CRASH) System and search components for use by the City of Austin Police Department.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Stephen Elkins, Chief Information Officer, 974-1656

This agreement will allow Austin Police Department (APD) officers the ability to submit automobile accident "crash" reports electronically to the State at no cost to the City.

In January 2010, Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) completed development of the Crash Reporting and Analysis for Safer Highways (CRASH) System and has asked the APD, along with other key cities, to participate in testing their new system prior to statewide implementation. Over the past two (2) years APD has worked with the TxDOT to help develop the requirements for the CRASH System. The system's purpose is to reduce time spent by officers in the field writing accident reports by hand and civilian employees performing data entry.

TxDOT has purchased a site license from Trancite Logic Systems for Easy Street Draw software and will purchase the annual maintenance for this software for the life of this Interlocal Agreement. There is no cost to the local government.

For each crash report submitted to TxDOT via CRASH, TxDOT will make available to the local government the data associated with that crash.

This system will streamline the State-required reporting process while facilitating more efficient use of officer and civilian employee time. This will be achieved by allowing officers to complete crash forms in the field more accurately and completely and allowing crash information to be imported into the department's Records Management System (RMS) electronically to eliminate the need for civilian personnel to transcribe the information manually. It will also make it easier to locate problem crash areas in the city, leading to safer streets.