Social Services Contracting

City Council

September 30, 2010

Request Approval For:

A process and timeline for competitively awarding social service contracts in FY 2011 - 2012 that promote self-sufficiency.
Social Services Contracting

After more than a decade of status quo funding for an existing mix of social service contracts, a new process opens up the potential for the City to be more focused on current priorities, enables organizations that haven't been funded in the past the chance to apply, and it gives current contractors the opportunity to propose new ideas, form new collaborative, and/or leverage their strengths in new ways.

All current contractors will be eligible and encouraged to compete in the new process.

These contracts will be 3-year contracts with two 1-year renewal options. In the current fiscal year, the social service contracts awarded total roughly $13 million, including $1.3 million that has been directed from Austin Energy to fund contracts that support economic development activity through workforce training.

Proposed Process and Timeline

1. Threshold Criteria List
   - Nonprofit or government entity; must target populations at or below 200% MFI.
   - Propose $20K based on feedback received since last week's briefing to Council

2. Scoring Matrix
   - Weighting chart with goals identified and prioritized from the Austin Tomorrow Comprehensive Plan
   - We are committed to addressing all five goals by awarding a mix of contracts that provide primary or secondary services that collectively address all five goals.

3. Timeline
   - Council and Staff recognize that there are still some details related to outcome measures to be refined in the coming weeks.
   - The sooner we get the RFP on the street the more time agencies will have to complete proposals and the more time we will have to address any transition needs.
   - Spring 2011 – PHHS Review, full Council review and approval
   - October 2011 – New contracts begin