

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	60266	Agenda Number	12.
Meeting Date:	8/4/2016		Department:	Health and Human Services
Subject				
<p>Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$97,000 in grant funds from the Texas Department of State Health Services, Austin, Texas, and amending the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Health and Human Services Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20150908-001) to appropriate \$97,000; and authorize negotiation and execution of an amendment to a foodborne outbreak investigation epidemiology contract extending the term through August 31, 2017.</p>				
Amount and Source of Funding				
<p>Funding in the amount of \$97,000 is available from the Texas Department of State Health Services. The grant period is September 1, 2015 through August 31, 2017.</p>				
Fiscal Note				
<p>A fiscal note is attached.</p>				
Purchasing Language:				
Prior Council Action:	On September 10, 2015, Council approved Ordinance No. 20150908-001 adopting the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Operating Budget.			
For More Information:	Shannon Jones, Director, Health and Human Services Department, 972-5010; Dr. Phillip Huang, Medical Director, 972-5408; Janet Pichette, Chief Epidemiologist, Epidemiology and Health Statistics Unit, 972-5486; Estella Kirscht, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5039.			
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:				
MBE / WBE:				
Related Items:				
Additional Backup Information				

During the 83rd Legislative Session, the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) was awarded funding for the purpose of augmenting local health department epidemiological capacity for outbreak and disaster response efforts, with a special emphasis on foodborne illness investigations.

To achieve this outcome, the DSHS Commissioner has directed the DSHS Emerging and Acute Infectious Disease Branch to offer funding for one full time epidemiology and surveillance staff member to local municipalities with the highest number of annual foodborne illnesses as determined by DSHS. As a result, the City's Health and Human Services Department has been offered funding to cover the cost of a full time surveillance and epidemiology staff member for the current state biennial budget period. Continued funding is subject to approval by the Legislature.

The funding will be used for a new amendment contract term of September 1, 2015 through August 31, 2017.

Performance Measures:

- Percent of Foodborne Outbreak Investigation initiated within three hours;
- The number of cases investigated that result in an intervention strategy;
- Number of Emergency Response Plans reviewed annually.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, the Health and Human Services Department's need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.