

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: March 8, 2018

Item Number: **003**

Economic Development Department

Authorize negotiation and execution of an amendment to the contract with the Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce to add additional business development services and to increase the contract amount by \$60,000, from \$142,500 to \$202,500, with one additional 12 month option for a total contract amount not to exceed \$832,500.

Lead Department	Economic Development
Fiscal Note	Funding in the amount of \$202,500 is available in the FY 2017-2018 Economic Development Department's Operating Budget.
For More Information	Rebecca Giello at 512-974-3045 - Dusty McCormick 512-974-6390

Additional Backup Information:

During budget adoption, Council increased the budget for the Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) contract by \$60,000, for a total Fiscal Year 2017-2018 amount of \$202,500 with one additional 12 month option for a total contract amount not to exceed \$832,500. The Chamber receives funding from the City of Austin to strengthen the local economy by developing Austin's existing businesses, recruiting outside businesses to relocate or do business in Austin, and by providing business development services for local businesses.

The Chamber is one of four chambers that comprise the Multi-Ethnic Chamber Alliance (MECA) that includes: the Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce, and the Austin Gay

and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. Currently, MECA has approximately 1,800 active members representing corporations, small businesses, non-profit organizations, and government agencies. The Alliance was developed by the City of Austin's Economic Development Department as a way to encourage the Multi-Ethnic Chambers to develop programs jointly, for greater dialogue, and to develop economies of scale as they provide similar services for the City with a focus on their respective business memberships.

The additional services are intended to include development of business for creative businesses, small businesses, and expanding to later hours for small businesses.