

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	26432	Agenda Number	29.
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Meeting Date:	9/26/13	Department:	Health and Human Services
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Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of Closed Point of Dispensing agreements with businesses to provide emergency medication to an estimated 200,000 Austin area employees and family members in the event of a public health emergency.

Amount and Source of Funding

Cost-incurring operations related to this agreement would occur only during a public health emergency. Operations under this agreement would be eligible for federal reimbursement.

Fiscal Note

There is no anticipated fiscal impact. No fiscal note is required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Philip Huang, MD, Health Authority, 512-972-5408, Janet Pichette, Chief Epidemiologist, 512-972-5486; Alma Ruiz, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5010.
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

BACKGROUND

HHSD seeks agreements with local businesses to serve as Closed Points of Dispensing (Closed PODs) of emergency medication to their employees, family members, contractors and students in the event of a public health emergency.

Following the 2001 Anthrax attacks, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) began funding state and local health departments to enhance public health emergency preparedness at the local level. The City of Austin Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) continues to receive funding for Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) response planning and activities. Planning deliverables include the development of a Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Plan, which is a federal stockpile of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies that local jurisdictions may request during a public health emergency. The SNS includes antibiotics and antivirals that may be used to protect a population against an imminent biological threat.

Local jurisdictions are responsible for distributing these medications to the general public at Points of Distribution (PODs) throughout the community. Partnering with businesses to serve as a POD is considered a national best practice and key to ensuring timely distribution of these medications to all residents within the City of Austin and Travis County.