

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council		Item ID	31614	Agenda Number	7.
Meeting Date:	4/10/2014			Department:	Health and Human Services
Subject					
Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$47,631 in grant funds from the TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES, and amending the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Health and Human Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20130909-001) to appropriate \$47,631 and add one additional full-time employee to staff the Foodborne Outbreak Investigation Epidemiology Project.					
Amount and Source of Funding					
Funding in the amount of \$47,631 is available from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS). The grant period is April 1, 2014 through August 31, 2014.					
Fiscal Note					
A fiscal note is attached.					
Purchasing Language:					
Prior Council Action:	On September 09, 2013, Council approved the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Health and Human Services Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund Ordinance No. 20130909-001.				
For More Information:	Shannon Jones, Deputy Director, 972-5410; Janet Pichette, Unit Manager, Epidemiology and Health Statistics Unit, 972-5486; Belinda Hare, Acting Agenda Coordinator, 972-5855.				
Boards and Commission Action:					
MBE / WBE:					
Related Items:					
Additional Backup Information					
<p>During a recent legislative session the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) was awarded funding for the purpose of augmenting local health department epidemiological capacity for outbreak and disaster response with special emphasis on foodborne illness investigations.</p> <p>To achieve this outcome, the DSHS Commissioner has directed the Emerging and Acute Infectious Disease Branch to offer funding for one full-time epidemiology and surveillance staff member to those local health departments with the highest number of annual foodborne illnesses. The City of Austin Health and Human Services Department has been selected to receive 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 renewal of the funding by the Legislature. The funding is for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2013-2014 (April 1, 2014 to August 31, 2014).</p> <p>This amendment will affect the following performance measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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. <p>The General Fund will not be required to contribute to this grant or to the funding of this position. When the grant funds expire, the Health and Human Services Department’s need for the position will be evaluated and the position may be eliminated.</p>					