

**AGENDA**



**Recommendation for Council Action**

Austin City Council	<b>Item ID</b>	36704	<b>Agenda Number</b>	9.
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<b>Meeting Date:</b>	10/16/2014	<b>Department:</b>	Planning and Development Review
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**Subject**

Authorize payment of the City's annual membership dues for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 to the Lone Star Rail District, in an amount not to exceed \$49,500.

**Amount and Source of Funding**

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Operating Budget of the Planning and Development Review Department.

**Fiscal Note**

<b>Purchasing Language:</b>	
<b>Prior Council Action:</b>	2008 – 2013: Council approved annual dues in the amount of \$49,500.
<b>For More Information:</b>	Gregory I. Guemsey, 512-974-2387; Lisa Nickle, 512-974-1417.
<b>Boards and Commission Action:</b>	
<b>MBE / WBE:</b>	
<b>Related Items:</b>	

**Additional Backup Information**

This action will authorize payment of annual membership dues to the Lone Star Rail District (formerly the Austin-San Antonio Intermunicipal Commuter Rail District) for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 in the amount of \$49,500.

The Texas Legislature authorized the formation of an Intermunicipal Commuter Rail District (Commuter Rail District) in 1997 to provide commuter rail services between Austin and San Antonio. The City of Austin, by resolution, expressed its approval and consent to the creation of the Commuter Rail District in 1998. The District was initially comprised of four local governments: City of Austin, Travis, San Antonio and Bexar Counties but since its creation in 2002, other cities and counties along the corridor have joined the District.

The Lone Star Rail district is an independent public agency focused solely on the mission of providing regional passenger rail service to Central and South Texas along the Austin/San Antonio corridor. The Rail District's governing statute authorizes the district to "acquire, construct, develop, own, operate, and maintain" passenger rail facilities and services. Member organizations are required to pay annual dues.