

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	52044	Agenda Number	29.
Meeting Date:	11/19/2015	Department:	Austin Fire Department	

Subject

Approve the execution of an amendment to renew the interlocal agreement with Travis County to integrate management of hazardous material containment and incidents by sharing personnel, equipment, technology, and data.

Amount and Source of Funding

\$130,000 in funding is available from Travis County to be paid to the City of Austin as an annual fee for service.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Fire Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr, (512) 974-0130; Chief of Staff Tom Dodds, (512) 974-0132
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The purpose of this interlocal agreement between the City of Austin and Travis County is to establish a cooperative working relationship between the two entities that establishes the Austin Fire Department (AFD) as having primary responsibility for providing resources and assigning an appropriate response to incidents involving the mitigation and containment of chemical, biological, nuclear or radiological events. City and County will integrate their efforts to manage hazardous material (hazmat) containment and respond to hazmat incidents by sharing personnel, equipment, technology, and data. The initial term of the agreement began October 1, 2013. The FY 2014 Agreement was extended until September 30, 2014, and both the City and the County wish to extend the agreement for four additional one year terms, until September 30, 2019.

Travis County will pay the City of Austin an annual fee of \$130,000: \$80,000 for 1) assignment pay associated with service provision, 2) training, and 3) equipment maintenance/sustainment/fuel; and \$50,000 for the County's half of one full-time employee (FTE) dedicated to hazardous materials administration.

AFD will employ a County Hazmat Liaison and approximately half of his/her work will focus on County hazardous materials administration. AFD will also dispatch hazmat services including the notification of Travis County first responders; monitor the readiness and training of 19 hazmat technicians on duty and/or on call 24-

7; use the National Incident Management System (NIMS) to establish on-scene incident command; report hazmat incidents to designated County personnel; provide hazmat equipment and vehicle replacement as scheduled; bill for cost recovery and provide collection reports on qualifying incidents occurring in the County; be the custodian of hazmat-related records.

The County will provide funding for one FTE with the job title Environmental Compliance Specialist Senior, a vehicle, workspace in County facilities, internet access and other Information Technology services to access regional information. The County will also coordinate planning for Homeland Security initiatives; evaluate hazmat incidents occurring in the County; provide a single point of contact for City and other organizations developing hazmat strategies and protocols; and will make available an existing inventory of hazmat vehicles, equipment and supplies including communications equipment.

Various goals, performance measures, and reporting requirements have been established. For example, the expected average response time to suburban County incidents is one hour or less.