

**AGENDA**



**Recommendation for Council Action**

Austin City Council	<b>Item ID</b>	51803	<b>Agenda Number</b>	51.
---------------------	----------------	-------	----------------------	-----

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	12/17/2015	<b>Department:</b>	Telecommunications and Reg Affairs
----------------------	------------	--------------------	------------------------------------

**Subject**

Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the Austin Independent School District (AISD) to contribute up to \$350,000 from fees collected by the City from cable providers, for AISD’s purchase of equipment necessary for the operation of the AISD educational access channel.

**Amount and Source of Funding**

Funding is available in the fiscal year 2015-2016 capital budget of the Austin Cable Access Fund.

**Fiscal Note**

<b>Purchasing Language:</b>	
<b>Prior Council Action:</b>	
<b>For More Information:</b>	Rondella M. Hawkins, TARA Officer, 512-974-2422
<b>Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:</b>	
<b>MBE / WBE:</b>	
<b>Related Items:</b>	

**Additional Backup Information**

In accordance with each cable company’s state-issued franchise, the City of Austin receives fees from each cable provider serving the Austin area to pay for capital expenses related to the operation of Austin’s public, educational, and governmental (PEG) access television channels. The annual PEG fee contribution from the cable providers is currently \$1.9 million.

AISD operates and manages one of the City’s two educational access television channels. AISD has presented capital equipment needs to the City for the new Performing Arts Center (PAC) to route live programming from the PAC to air on the educational and other PEG channels and to upgrade equipment in the Board of Directors Auditorium and the production control room. When completed, the total cost of the new systems will be approximately \$1.7 million. City Council approved \$350,000 in PEG fees in the FY 2015-16 budget to contribute to this project. The entire purchase will be directed by AISD to ensure that all equipment is compatible with required uses and AISD will cover the remaining costs.

Staff is seeking approval to negotiate and execute an interlocal agreement with AISD for the allocation of up to \$350,000 towards the AISD PEG equipment purchase. This contribution from the City to AISD meets the intent of Resolution 20110217-048 adopted by the City Council in February 2011 directing the City Manager to collaborate with AISD on budget partnership options. This contribution helps ensure the ongoing cablecasting of school board meetings and district events and will help provide live programming capability at the PAC, a location that the City will increasingly use to host live events and meetings.

