

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting : February 15, 2018

Item Number: 034

Public Health

Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 6 to the interlocal agreement with Austin Independent School District to increase funding for mentoring services in an amount not to exceed \$407 for the 12-month period ending September 30, 2018, and increase funding for the three 12-month extension options in an amount not to exceed \$407 per extension option, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$98,858.

Lead Department	Austin Public Health.
Fiscal Note	Funding in the amount of \$407 is included in the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Operating Budget of Austin Public Health. Funding for extension options is contingent upon Council approval of funding in future budgets.
Prior Council Action	On September 13, 2017, Council approved Ordinance No. 20170913-001 adopting the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Operating Budget, which included a 2.5% increase to existing social services agreements.
For More Information	Stephanie Hayden, Interim Director, 512-972-5010; Adrienne Sturup, Acting Assistant Director, 512-972-5167, Vella Karman, Social Services Policy Manager, 512-972-5064; Estella Kirscht, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5039.

Additional Backup Information:

Approval of this item will authorize Austin Public Health to complete Amendment No. 6 to add funding to the agreement with Austin Independent School District (AISD) for mentoring services based on the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 budget adoption process in which Council approved funding for a 2.5% increase to existing social services agreements. This annual increase is \$407 for the Mentor Program.

Amendment No. 5 exercised the second extension option for the period of October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018. Amendment No. 4 included administrative changes that did not impact the program services delivered by this agreement.

Amendment No. 3 was approved by Council on April 13, 2017. During the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budget adoption process, Council approved \$600,000 in funding for current social service providers for a cost of living increase, which resulted in a 2.3% increase for most social service agreements. This resulted in an annual increase to the Mentoring Program agreement of \$366, for a total amount of \$16,266 for the period October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017, and a total amount of \$16,266 for the four remaining 12-month extension options.

Amendment No.2 exercised the first extension option for the period of October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017. Amendment No. 1 included a 6% increase of \$900 for the initial agreement and each 12-month extension option for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$95,400.

“Youth mentoring” is defined as a sustained relationship between a young person and a caring adult who is screened and trained to provide the young person with support, guidance, and assistance. Research has shown that youth participating in mentoring relationships experience positive academic returns, such as improved attendance, increased likelihood of high school graduation, increased likelihood of post-secondary education, and a more positive attitude toward school. It has been estimated that as many as 5,000 students in AISD would benefit from the support, guidance, and assistance of a trained, caring, and responsible volunteer-mentor.

On December 16, 2011, the joint subcommittees from the City, Travis County, and AISD created a Mentoring Task Force that would report to the Joint Subcommittee with findings and recommendations that promote youth mentoring. On January 18, 2013, the Mentoring Task Force presented the following recommendations to the Joint subcommittees:

1. Creation of the Austin/Travis County Mentoring Advisory Council (A/TCMAC), consisting of twenty-four members that include seven members appointed by each governmental agency and three mentor service providers;
2. Appointment of an AISD staff member to oversee the district-wide mentoring efforts, and provide support and guidance for the A/TCMAC; and
3. Presentation of an annual accountability update to the joint subcommittees

The current agreement with AISD for a Mentor Program, which stems from the work of the Mentoring Advisory Council created by the Joint Subcommittee, includes investments from Travis County and AISD. The program aims to improve school attendance by matching chronically absent youth with trained mentors who are AISD staff or peer mentors. The Mentor Program serves 6th and 9th grade students at approximately nine middle and high school campuses who have been identified and selected for participation based on chronic absenteeism in the previous school year.

Related Departmental Goal:

Provision: Social Services - Promote and foster increased self-sufficiency, healthy behaviors, and lifestyle

among targeted populations.

Related Business Plan Goals:

Improve maternal, child and adolescent health outcomes from preconception through adulthood.

Performance Measures:

Output: 24 Total Number of Unduplicated Clients Served

Outcome: 80% Percent of youth who progress to the next academic level

Outcome: 80% Percent of clients who improve attendance.