



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Ernesto Rodriguez, Chief
Austin – Travis County EMS

DATE: August 12, 2019

SUBJECT: Response to Resolution No. 20190207-033 regarding Stop the Bleed

On February 7, 2019, the Austin City Council passed resolution No. 20190207-033 directing the City Manager to provide budgetary and program recommendations for placement of Stop the Bleed kits in all high schools serving the City of Austin students including those in the Austin ETJ; study budgetary recommendations for a staffing model to manage Stop the Bleed programs in Austin high schools; and explore partnership opportunities for future expansion of the program.

The City, through its EMS Department, used a team approach and assembled a Stop the Bleed Task Force that includes representatives of the Austin ISD, Austin Police Department, Austin Fire Department, the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and the Capital Area Trauma Regional Advisory Council. To begin the project, the group identified the resources, equipment, and supplies needed to train personnel of AISD and place Stop the Bleed Kits in High Schools. The team will continue to work to achieve the same for other school districts with schools in Austin and the ETJ.

An Injury Prevention Captain was provided by the EMS department to help coordinate Stop the Bleed training activities and oversee the EMS Explorer Post. The EMS department is also providing up to 33% of an Emergency Management Commander's staff time to lead the Stop the Bleed Task Force and coordinate emergency planning with AISD. Both of these assignments will be reviewed annually and extended if needed. There are many Stop the Bleed instructors available within the Austin and Travis County community who may assist at various training programs including members of EMS Explorer Post 247. All members of the Post have received Stop the Bleed training and several have completed instructor qualifications.

The cost of training equipment, Stop the Bleed Stations, and tourniquets for all AISD high schools is estimated to be \$65,700. A local community partner has been approached to assist with funding the program. Presently, training supplies and equipment from throughout the community is being shared for initial program training; however, purchasing training equipment and supplies will aid in expanding the Stop the Bleed program to middle and elementary schools in the future. Additionally, AISD has identified some funding in their budget to purchase some Stop the Bleed kits to place in several of their schools.

Partnerships have been established with various agencies throughout the community that span information sessions to teaching partnerships. Several agencies such as Seton and University of Texas Dell Medical School have aided in the delivery of instructional programs. A program to train 140 school nurses was completed on August 9, 2019 at the medical school. Instructors from throughout the community assisted with this event, including several from the City of Austin.

The next step for the Stop the Bleed Task Force is to develop a broader phased-in plan to assess the needs of school districts in the Austin ETJ and continue training efforts further. The AISD team has requested for the task force to explore expanding the program into middle schools and elementary schools next.

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager