



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-2023, **Agenda Item #:** 86.

5/19/2022

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of amendments to the master interlocal agreement with The University of Texas at Austin for research, consulting, and technical assistance to increase the expenditure limit by \$2.5 million, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$10 million, to remove the annual expenditure limit in the agreement, and to make other clarifying changes regarding the term of contract.

Lead Department

Office of Innovation.

Fiscal Note

This item has no fiscal impact. Funding for individual project agreements under this interlocal agreement are contingent upon available funding in current and future departmental budgets.

Prior Council Action:

August 27, 2020 - Council authorized negotiation and execution of the master interlocal agreement between the City and the University of Texas at Austin for a term of up to five years for a total amount not to exceed \$7.5 million.

For More Information:

Daniel Culotta, Interim Chief Innovation Officer, 512-710-9503; Alba Sereno, Chief Research and Strategic Initiatives Officer, 512-974-7677.

Additional Backup Information:

The purpose of the Agreement is to establish pre-negotiated terms and conditions, as well as a framework for research, consulting, and technical services to be exchanged between the University of Texas at Austin and the City.

The Agreement currently grants the City total spending authority not to exceed \$1.5 million per year for five years for a total of \$7.5 million.

The proposed amendments to the master interlocal agreement are recommended based on the usage of the Agreement by City departments to date, and because of the desire to use the Agreement for the Austin Water external audit. Removal of the yearly spending limit will ensure that other research projects that are currently being planned can still take place alongside the Austin Water external audit. Without removing the yearly spending limit, the Water Audit would take up most of this fiscal year's remaining authorization, which would likely delay until next fiscal year other research projects that departments are planning to begin this year. Expanding the overall spending limit makes the total authorization reflective of the usage patterns for the Agreement experienced thus far.

The Office of Innovation provided an update on the Agreement's usage to date to the Audit and Finance Committee in April 2022. For the update, staff created a publicly available reporting dashboard that contains data on usage and expenditures associated with the Agreement. The Office of Innovation will update the

dashboard twice annually. Access the dashboard at:

<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/city.of.austin.office.of.innovation/viz/ResearchprojectsbetweenCOAandUTAustinupportedunderILA/Introduction>.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Government that Works for All.