



## Recommendation for Action

**File #: 22-2027, Agenda Item #: 49.**

**6/9/2022**

### **Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the Leander Independent School District for the provision of start-up costs for a new Pre-Kindergarten classroom, to expand affordable high quality early care and education options for Austin and Travis County residents, for a three-month term in an amount not to exceed \$16,000.

### **Lead Department**

Austin Public Health.

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$16,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget.

### **Prior Council Action:**

September 2, 2021 - Council authorized an interlocal agreement with the Del Valle Independent School District for the provision of start-up costs to expand access to Dual Language Pre-Kindergarten programs for Austin/Travis County families residing within the district's school boundary who do not meet state eligibility requirements for state publicly funded Pre-Kindergarten, on a 10-0 vote.

June 3, 2021 - Council authorized an interlocal agreement with Pflugerville Independent School District for the provision of start-up costs for one new Pre-Kindergarten classroom to expand affordable high-quality early childcare options for Austin/Travis County residents, on a 10-0 vote.

September 19, 2019 - Council authorized a first amendment to an interlocal agreement with Del Valle Independent School District for the provision of start-up costs for up to three new Pre-Kindergarten classrooms to expand affordable high-quality early childcare options for Austin/Travis County residents in an amount not to exceed \$48,000, on an 11-0 vote.

September 19, 2019 - Council authorized a first amendment to an interlocal agreement with the Austin Independent School District for the provision of start-up costs for up to five new Pre-Kindergarten classrooms to expand affordable early childcare options for Austin residents in an amount not to exceed \$80,000, on an 11-0 vote.

April 25, 2019 - Council authorized an interlocal agreement with the Del Valle Independent School District for the provision of start-up costs for four new Pre-Kindergarten classrooms to expand affordable high-quality early childcare options for Austin/Travis County residents, for a five-month term in an amount not to exceed \$64,000, on an 11-0 vote.

February 21, 2019 - Council authorized an interlocal agreement with the Manor Independent School District for the provision of start-up costs for four new Pre-Kindergarten classrooms to expand affordable childcare options for Austin/Travis County residents, with a seven-month term, in an amount not to exceed \$64,000, on an 11-0 vote.

February 21, 2019 - Council authorized an interlocal agreement with the Austin Independent School District for the provision of start-up costs for up to five new Pre-Kindergarten classrooms to expand affordable high quality early care and education options for Austin residents for a seven-month term in an amount not to exceed \$80,000, on an 11-0 vote.

June 28, 2018 - Council authorized an interlocal agreement with the Austin Independent School District for the provision of start-up costs for three new Pre-Kindergarten classrooms to expand affordable childcare options for Austin residents for a three-month term, on an 11-0 vote.

**For More Information:**

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**Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:**

April 11, 2018 - The Early Childhood Council recommended all items for Council Consideration developed by the Work Group responding to Council Resolution No. 20170928-057, which included direction to, "Leverage up to \$112,000 in state funding per classroom, per year, by investing in one-time start-up costs associated with setting up new Pre-Kindergarten 3 (Pre-K 3) classrooms, including up to eight classrooms in the Austin Independent School District and up to three classrooms in the Pflugerville Independent School District," on a vote of 7-0.

**Additional Backup Information:**

On September 28, 2017, City Council approved Resolution No. 20170928-057, which directed the compilation of information related to community data, equity gaps, and potential policies and resources that could provide opportunities to expand existing affordable high quality childcare services and access to Pre-Kindergarten. One of the twelve deliverables was to consider the availability of Pre-Kindergarten programs and provide funding options for the start-up costs to expand Pre-Kindergarten programs in the Austin Independent School District and surrounding school districts that enroll Austin children.

This \$16,000 investment covers the start-up costs for a new Pre-K classroom. Leander Independent School District will purchase materials for a newly opened early childhood special education Pre- Kindergarten classroom serving three and four year-olds. The school district will draw down \$3,600 in Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding from the State for each student served who qualifies for free public Pre-K in the new classrooms, to cover teacher salaries.

Investing in Pre-Kindergarten is aligned with the community's Success By 6 Strategic Plan for Austin/Travis County for 2019-2023, which includes the following strategy for early childhood education related to Pre-Kindergarten:

- Increase the number of eligible three and four-year-old children enrolled in public Pre-Kindergarten in Travis County school districts and other high quality early education settings.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Health and Environment, Economic Opportunity and Affordability