



Recommendation for Action

File #: 23-1361, **Agenda Item #:** 45.

3/23/2023

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20220817-004) to accept and appropriate \$38,000 in grant funds from the Texas Department of State Health Services from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to reduce tobacco-related health disparities among Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Queer+ communities.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$38,000 is available from the Texas Department of State Health Services. A City match is not required. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

February 4, 2021 - Council authorized the negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with University of Texas at Austin, on an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

Tobacco-use remains the leading preventable cause of death in Travis County. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer+ (LGBTQ+) communities are disproportionately affected by tobacco use. One in five LGBTQ+ individuals use tobacco and are five times less likely to call a smoking cessation quit line. The Texas Department of State Health Services has allocated funds to the Austin Public Health Department from a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grant to reduce tobacco-related health disparities among LGBTQ+ communities. Currently, the project is in Year 3. Year 4 will be from May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024. The project was originally funded at \$217,000 per year, however, the Texas Department of State Health Services will increase funding for this project by an additional \$38,000 for Year 4 and potentially more in future years.

Approval of this item will provide funding to reduce tobacco-related health disparities among LGBTQ+ communities. The additional funding will be used to address menthol-related tobacco disparities. The funds will support additional staff time for a Health Educator I position, as well as media and awareness campaigns and events to raise awareness of the disproportionate impact of menthol on the LGBTQ+ community.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, the Austin Public Health Department's need for continued funding will be evaluated and may be denied.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.