



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 23-2334, **Agenda Item #:** 96.

7/20/2023

### **Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the Austin Independent School District (AISD) for SwimATX, a year-long swim lesson program that includes a 36-hour lifeguard certification course, which will be provided to the students of select AISD high schools.

### **Lead Department**

Parks and Recreation Department.

### **Fiscal Note**

This item has no fiscal impact.

### **Prior Council Action:**

April 6, 2017 - Council approved on consent the negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the Austin Independent School District on Council Member Houston's motion, Mayor Pro Tem Tovo's second on a 10-1 vote with Council Member Flannigan voting nay.

### **For More Information:**

Kimberly McNeeley, Director, Parks and Recreation, 512-974-6722; Ashley Wells, Aquatics Division Manager, 512-974-9343; Tim Dombeck, Business Process Specialist, 512-974-6716.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

Recognizing the importance of education and improving the skills of Austin youth, the City supports Athletics/Physical Education classes at Akins High School and other AISD high schools. The purpose of this interlocal agreement is for the City, in collaboration with AISD, to provide a year-long swim lesson program to those students who agree to participate and complete the Swim ATX program.

Moreover, those students who successfully complete the program are eligible to participate in the StarGuard Lifeguard Certification Course and will earn course credits. With their successful course and certification completion, these students will be eligible to apply for employment to provide lifeguard services during the peak summer season. Historically, City pools have experienced a shortage of lifeguards. It is anticipated that these additional qualified applicants will have a positive impact on lifeguard recruitment.

In support of the program, AISD will select 50 students or more per year from Akins High school and other identified high schools, who will attend the year-long swim program. Additionally, a Physical Education educator will monitor and assist the students. Lunches and transportation will also be provided by the District. To recruit students, the selected high schools will allow City employees to present information regarding the lifeguard certification program at the identified campuses. The City of Austin's program support will be through its Parks and Recreation Department. The Department will provide Stacy Neighborhood Pool as a program site, along with Recreation Program Specialists who will serve as swim instructors.

The initial term of the agreement will be three years with two automatic extension options for the duration of two years each. There will be no exchange of funds between the City and AISD.

Upon direction from the Austin City Council, the City of Austin, through its Park and Recreation Department, is prepared to work collaboratively with its partners to deliver swim lessons to the AISD students at Akins High School and other identified AISD high schools.