

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Ramiro A. Cavazos, Director, Economic Development

THROUGH: Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

COPIES: Christopher Brady, Assistant City Manager; Manuel Longoria, Assistant Director, EDD, Anita Martin, EDD Manager, EDD; File

SUBJECT: Authorization to Apply to the SBC Foundation for Technology Enhancements in the Small Business Division

DATE: April 17, 2003

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This item provides authorization for the application of a grant to the SBC Foundation's Excelsator Program. This grant requests funding for hardware, software and website enhancements for Economic Development's Small Business Division in the amount of \$13,759.75.

Staff recommends approval.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Every year, organizations throughout the country are invited to submit proposals for SBC's Excelsator Grant Program. The goal of the Excelsator Program is to utilize technology to impact how organizations provide outreach and enhance the lives of their underserved clients.

It is the vision of EDD that improved technology will enhance the mission of the Small Business Division. Clients will be better served with upgraded or new small business software, enhanced website capabilities, and new computers. Currently, the Division uses business and marketing plan software dating back to 1996. And, while there is a website accessible to potential clients of the Division, it is not interactive nor is it capable of providing clients with additional links that will provide information needed in starting a small business. The Division also utilizes PC based and web enabled software for tracking contract opportunities for small businesses. A yearly subscription is needed for each of these programs to allow clients to use this service. In addition, the Division operates four computers that are accessible for client use. However, these computers are not compatible with the City of San Antonio's Windows 2000 standard.

POLICY ANALYSIS

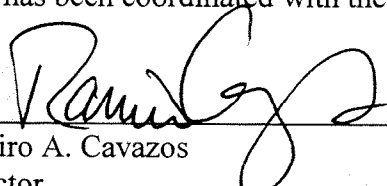
This grant application continues the City's policy of finding alternate funding sources for the improvement of current departmental programs.

FISCAL IMPACT

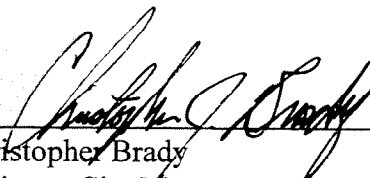
This ordinance provides authorization for application only. There is no fiscal impact.

COORDINATION

This has been coordinated with the Finance Department.

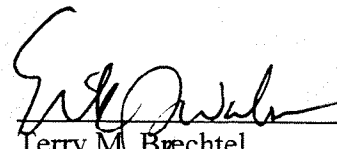


Ramiro A. Cavazos
Director
Economic Development Department



Christopher Brady
Assistant City Manager

Approved:



Terry M. Brechtel
City Manager