

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM
EXTERNAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Jim Campbell, External Relations Director

COPIES: Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager; Lou Lendman, Office of Management & Budget; File

SUBJECT: TEXAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP DUES

DATE: October 6, 2003

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

An ordinance authorizing payment of the City of San Antonio's annual membership dues to the Texas Municipal League (TML) in the amount of \$45,251 for the period August 1, 2003 through July 31, 2004.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since its formation in 1913, the Texas Municipal League (TML) has existed solely to provide services to Texas cities. TML represents the interests of member cities before legislative, administrative and judicial bodies at both the state and federal levels.

Services provided by TML to member cities include direct assistance on legislative matters before the Texas Legislature, monthly legislative updates, as well as research on specialized city concerns. TML also works closely with the National League of Cities (NLC) on federal issues affecting municipal governments.

TML offers training through numerous workshops as well as the Annual Conference and Exhibition and the Annual Institute of the Association of Mayors, Councilmembers and Commissioners to facilitate the study and exchange of information on relevant municipal government issues. Publications such as *Texas Town and City*, *TML Legislative Update Handbook for Mayors and Councilmembers in Home Rule Cities* and the *Texas City Officials Directory and Buyers Guide*, offer member cities an excellent means of communication and serve as a valuable tool in alerting cities of important governmental or private sector actions or proposed actions, which may affect city operations.

Additionally, TML promotes constructive and cooperative relationships among cities and between the League and other levels of governments, councils of governments, the National League of Cities, educational institutions, and the private sector. The NLC provides, in a timely manner, any additional services or information which individual members may request, consistent with a member cities' common interests and the League's resources.

POLICY ANALYSIS

The City of San Antonio has been a member of the Texas Municipal League since 1934. During the 78th Legislative Session, state lawmakers filed approximately 5,800 bills. TML assisted the City in reviewing over 1,350 municipally related bills. More importantly, TML helped defeat 350 pieces of legislation that were deemed detrimental to Texas cities. TML staff provides legal and technical information on all aspects of city governance and operations. Two conferences – the Municipal Conference & Exhibition and the Annual Institute of the Association of Mayors, Councilmembers and Commissioners – offer elected officials and City staff enhanced knowledge and skills each year. Training workshops are also offered throughout the year on land use, telecommunications franchising, annexation and land development, grant writing, open government, employment law and youth programs.

FISCAL IMPACT


Funds in the amount of \$45,251, has been budgeted in the City's FY 2003-2004 General Fund. This is the same amount as last year's dues. Dues are based on San Antonio's population, according to 2000 Census data.

COORDINATION

This ordinance was coordinated with the Office of Management and Budget.


Jim Campbell, Director
External Relations

Approved:


Terry M. Brechtel
City Manager