

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Dennis J. Campa, Director, Department of Community Initiatives (DCI)

THROUGH: Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

COPIES: Frances A. Gonzalez, Assistant to the City Manager; Finance Department; Office of Management and Budget; City Attorney's Office; Community Action Advisory Board; File

SUBJECT: ORDINANCE ACCEPTING CITY PUBLIC SERVICE (CPS) REIMBURSEMENT FUNDING

DATE: August 7, 2003

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of \$80,522 from City Public Service (CPS) for reimbursement of direct costs incurred by the Department of Community Initiatives (DCI) while assisting CPS to conduct outreach to customers, and reimburses Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) 2000 Project Number 020069 in the amount of \$80,522.

Staff recommends the approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In January and March of 2001, as a result of increasing ratepayer utility bills caused by rising natural gas fuel prices and a colder than normal winter, the City of San Antonio's City Council directed the Department of Community Initiatives (DCI) and City Public Service (CPS) to institute a pilot disconnection prevention program to assist eligible, low-income CPS ratepayers with their utility bills. To assist CPS in conducting outreach to its customers, the City Council also reallocated budgeted Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funds.

In response, DCI and CPS developed the Home Energy Assistance Reconnection Tactics (HEART) Program. Under this program, DCI performed outreach to delinquent CPS customers, providing assistance when appropriate.

To implement the Council directed effort, \$80,522 of CSBG 2000 funding was reallocated. The CSBG is used by DCI's Community Action Division (CAD) to fund the City's local safety net for low-income residents.

CPS has agreed to reimburse the City in the amount of \$80,522 for direct costs incurred as a result of the City Council directive (Attachment I to the Ordinance). The \$80,522 will be used to reimburse CSBG 2000 Project Number 020069 and permit closure of this project.

POLICY ANALYSIS

This ordinance continues existing City policy to provide emergency assistance and community safety net services to low-income residents of San Antonio and Bexar County through the Community Action Program. DCI's goals include Safety Net services. This effort is in keeping with the Department's priority to assist in emergency situations.

FISCAL IMPACT

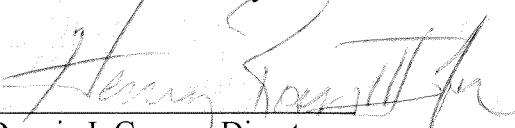
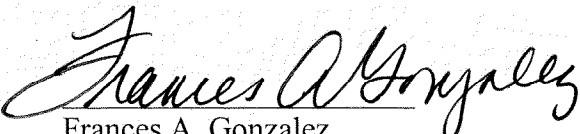
This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of \$80,522 from City Public Service for reimbursement of direct costs incurred by the Department of Community Initiatives. There is no General Fund commitment.

COORDINATION

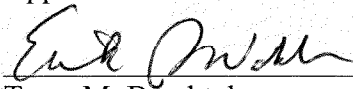
Coordination has occurred with the Community Action Advisory Board (CAAB), City Attorney's Office, Finance Department, and the Office of Management and Budget.

SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS

Provisions of the City Ethics Ordinance do not apply.


Dennis J. Campa, Director
Department of Community Initiatives
Frances A. Gonzalez
Assistant to the City Manager

Approved:


Terry M. Brechtel
City Manager