

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM
SAN ANTONIO METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Fernando A. Guerra, M.D., M.P.H., Director of Health

THROUGH: Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

COPIES: Frances A. Gonzalez, Assistant to the City Manager; City Attorney's Office; Office of Management and Budget, Risk Management Division; Finance Department; Project; File

SUBJECT: ORDINANCE TO EXECUTE A NEW CONTRACT WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ACCEPT FUNDS FOR THE LABORATORY BIOTERRORISM PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

DATE: August 7, 2003

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance authorizes the City Manager to execute Contract Number 7460020708B 2004 with the Texas Department of Health (TDH) and accept \$560,410.00 in cash to support the ongoing Laboratory Bioterrorism Preparedness Program of the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD) for the period September 1, 2003 through August 31, 2004. This ordinance also authorizes approval of the project budget and personnel complement.

Staff recommends approval.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Texas Department of Health provides over \$12 million in grant funding to the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District each year. This support is done through three main contracts, two for grants that are paid on a cost reimbursement basis and one that regulates fee-for-service grants. The three contracts are renewed annually and continue until all grant attachments have expired. Through an ordinance passed and approved on February 6, 2003, the City Manager was authorized to execute one of the contracts for cost reimbursement grants. TDH has now offered the second such contract, Contract Number 7460020708B 2004.

As funding for ongoing programs is renewed or as new grants are initiated, TDH will provide contract attachments. One attachment was included with this contract and it provides funding in the amount of \$560,410.00 for the ongoing Laboratory Bioterrorism Preparedness Program. These funds will cover a portion of the renovation costs for 4,000 square feet of facility space at Brooks City-Base, cabinets, supplies, and additional laboratory equipment. In future weeks several more attachments will be offered as part of this contract to support other SAMHD grant programs (one attachment for each grant program). All contract changes that add or remove funding are submitted to the City Council for approval.

The Laboratory Bioterrorism Preparedness Program is an effort whereby staff from the SAMHD Laboratory Division is developing an infrastructure for the rapid detection of toxins and organisms that may be introduced in the community through acts of bioterrorism. In addition, funding from this grant in the amount of \$166,670.00 will augment previously approved funding to renovate the space at Brooks City-Base that will eventually house the SAMHD BioSafety Level Three (BSL3) Laboratory. This upgrade is necessary to meet the standards for bioterrorism safety as set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Texas Laboratory Response Network.

The personnel complement for the Laboratory Bioterrorism Preparedness Program, comprised of a Program Manager and a Laboratory Technologist II, is the same as last year.

POLICY ANALYSIS

Execution of this TDH contract and acceptance of this grant will continue the long-standing practice of utilizing Federal and State aid to support the local public health programs of the City.

FISCAL IMPACT

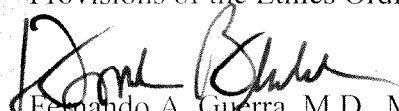
Under the Public Health State Support Project 2003/2004, this TDH contract amendment will provide \$560,410.00 in cash to support the ongoing Laboratory Bioterrorism Preparedness Program of the SAMHD. Execution of this TDH contract and acceptance of this cash grant award will place no demands on the City General Fund.

COORDINATION

The City Attorney's Office and the Office of Management and Budget, Risk Management Division, have reviewed and approved the contract with TDH. The Finance Department has approved the proposed project budget.

SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS

Provisions of the Ethics Ordinance do not apply.



Fernando A. Guerra, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Health



Frances A. Gonzalez
Assistant to the City Manager

APPROVED BY:



f Terry M. Brechtel
City Manager