CITY OF SAN ANTONIO COMSENT AGENDA INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM. EXTERNAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT NO.

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Jim Campbell, External Relations Director

THROUGH: Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

COPIES: Christopher J. Brady, Assistant City Manager, Lou Lendman, Director, Office

of Management & Budget; File

SUBJECT: MEMBERSHIP DUES - ALAMO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

DATE: January 22, 2004

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

An ordinance authorizing payment of the City of San Antonio's annual membership dues to the Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG) in the amount of \$68,678.76 for calendar year 2004.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND

AACOG serves its twelve-county membership by providing intergovernmental cooperation through planning and coordination of activities that include technical assistance, dissemination of information and administration of area-wide programs. Membership is comprised of the following twelve counties: Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Medina and Wilson. Bexar County serves as the hub and its provision of services emanate to outlying counties.

AACOG annual membership dues generate \$210,382, which, in turn, is responsible for providing matching funds to other programs. For every dollar of local dues, \$110 in additional funds is secured through grants and other sources. The FY 2004 budget of \$23,265,955 includes federal funds passed through the state in the amount of \$12,592,575, direct state funds in the amount of \$4,434,634, and federal grants in the amount of \$422,967. Administrative indirect costs of \$1,137,679 represent 4.94% of the FY 4004 budget.

POLICY ANALYSIS

AACOG seeks to resolve regional issues and address regional opportunities through the commitment of its members and provides programs and support in the following areas: Aging, Air Quality, Community Relations, Commute Solutions, Criminal Justice, Data Center, Economic & Community Development, Rural Public Transportation, Solid Waste, Tourism and

Workforce Development. The agency also serves as the local clearinghouse for the Texas Review and Comment System (TRACS) for all federal and state grants. Federal law requires that grant proposals be entered into the TRACS system, which allows for regional planning councils to review and comment on proposals. The overall goal is better communication, with a view toward strengthening proposals before they are submitted to the appropriate federal or state agency for approval.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

AACOG membership dues for 2004 are based on a rate of \$.06 per capita, using 2000 Census population figures. This year's dues of \$68,678.76 are the same as last year's dues assessment. This amount has been budgeted in the City's FY 2003-2004 General Fund.

COORDINATION

This item was coordinated with the Office of Management & Budget.

Jim Campbell, Director

External Relations

Approved:

Christopher J. Brady Assistant City Manager

Approved:

Terry M. Brechtel City Manager