

CONSENT AGENDA
ITEM NO. **13**

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
EXTERNAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Michael Bernard, City Attorney

SUBJECT: Alamo Area Council of Government membership dues

DATE: January 12, 2006

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 2006. 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. Currently, Councilmembers Roger Flores, Delicia Herrera and Kevin Wolff serve on the AACOG Board of Directors.

POLICY ANALYSIS

AACOG provides a forum for member governments and citizens to discuss issues and seek cooperative resolutions to needs that cross district, city and county lines. Specific AACOG program areas include: aging, air quality, commute solutions, criminal justice, economic & community development, rural public transportation, solid waste, tourism and workforce development.

A key milestone achieved in 2005 was the acceptance of the Attainment Demonstration and planning measures found in the region's local revisions to the State Implementation Plan by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This approval marks a major point of success in the process, which has taken almost six years, beginning with the signing of the Early Action Compact in 1999. With continued cooperation between federal, state and local agencies, the region is expected to receive a final deferral until December 31, 2007.

Federal homeland security funding received by AACOG in 2003 allowed for the purchase of five mobile interoperable communications trailers, one of which was mobilized and used by the San Antonio Police Department as a command post at Kelly USA during the Hurricane Katrina evacuation relief effort. The communications trailer allowed for all law enforcement, fire, and

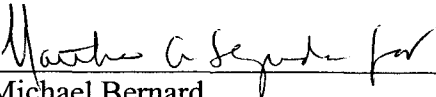
emergency personnel agencies who typically utilize different frequencies to operate under one communication system for this coordinated response.

FISCAL IMPACT

AACOG membership dues for 2006 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 2005-2006 General Fund.

COORDINATION

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



Michael Bernard
City Attorney



Sheryl Sculley
City Manager