

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

TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager
FROM: Ray Baray, Intergovernmental Relations Manager
SUBJECT: Creation of Emergency Services District #7
DATE: March 2, 2006

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION

An ordinance approving the terms and conditions and authorizing the execution of an agreement with Bexar County which establishes certain terms by which the City of San Antonio will consent to the creation of Emergency Services District (ESD) #7 within the City's extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) for the provision by the District of fire suppression and emergency medical services for individuals residing within its boundaries.

Staff recommends approval.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On January 30, 2006, petitioners for ESD #7 submitted an application to the City of San Antonio and Bexar County, requesting approval to create an ESD in the northwestern part of the county, which includes territory in the City's ETJ. This effort marks the third attempt by petitioners in this area to create this district. The two prior proposed districts were smaller in geographic area, but both failed to receive voter approval.

In 2003, City staff met to review the initial application and noted some minor concerns, which were resolved and inserted in the final agreements. City Council adopted agreements on February 5, 2004, and then again on May 5, 2005. These agreements contain the following major provisions:

- limits the amount of debt that the ESD can incur to \$20,000 without the consent of the City and protects the City from becoming financially responsible for debts incurred by third-parties;
- stipulates that any fire station constructed by the ESD will be located and built with the concurrence of the Chief of the San Antonio Fire Department and that equipment purchased by the ESD be compatible with City equipment;
- allows the San Antonio Fire Chief, or his designee, to serve in an ex-officio capacity on the board of directors of the ESD;
- mandates Bexar County to seek input from the City regarding the qualifications of applicants for membership on the board of the ESD and allows the City an opportunity to interview and recommend applicants to the board of the ESD;

- requires the ESD to enter into a regional mutual aid agreement; and
- grants the City the authority, upon its request to the board of the ESD, to have any City-owned property or property the City is acquiring removed from within the district's boundaries.

City staff reviewed the proposed boundaries of ESD #7 and confirmed with the petitioners that the new agreement will include all the previously mentioned provisions.

POLICY ANALYSIS

This ordinance is consistent with City policy regarding the implementation of HB 3191 (78th Legislature) by approving the creation of emergency services districts in the City's ETJ.

The Bexar County Commissioners Court approved this agreement on February 7, 2006. The City Council Intergovernmental Relations Committee also provided favorable review of this agreement during their meeting on February 22, 2006.

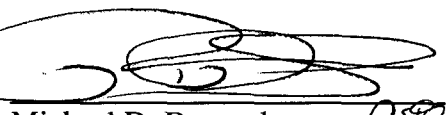
FINANCIAL IMPACT

Creation of ESD #7 will have no immediate impact on the City's General Fund, but could make future annexations more expensive. It is estimated that the assessed property tax value of ESD #7 is approximately \$673 million. The annual revenue that could be raised by ESD #7 to fund its operations is \$673,000 based on the maximum tax rate of 10 cents/\$100 valuation.

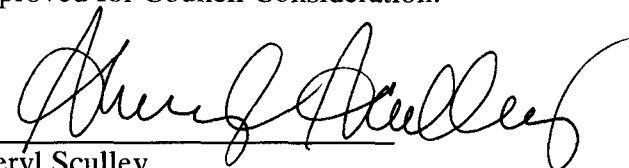
COORDINATION

This item was coordinated with the City Attorney's Office, Finance, Management and Budget, Planning, and the San Antonio Fire Department.


Ray Baray
Intergovernmental Relations Manager


Michael D. Bernard
City Attorney

Approved for Council Consideration:


Sheryl Sculley
City Manager