

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
SAN ANTONIO METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager

FROM: Fernando A. Guerra, MD, MPH, Director of Health

SUBJECT: U.S. Geological Survey

DATE: April 13, 2006

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance authorizes the City Manager, or her designee, to execute an agreement in the amount of \$57,490.00 between the United States Department of the Interior's U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District's Public Center for Environmental Health whereby the USGS will provide surface water data collection and monitoring activities of Leon Creek, upstream and downstream from the former Kelly Air Force Base (KAFB), during the period October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006. In addition, this ordinance authorizes payment for contractual services.

Staff recommends approval.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In Ordinance No. 94645, passed and approved September 27, 2001, the City entered into a ten (10) year cooperative agreement with the Secretary of the Air Force for the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District to establish and operate a Public Center for Environmental Health (PCEH). Residents have expressed health concerns from potential exposure related to the release of hazardous substances at the former KAFB. Fish living in Leon Creek were found to contain polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and a subsequent fish advisory was issued through the Texas Department of State Health Services for Leon Creek. Due to these concerns, the water quality of Leon Creek is being monitored upstream and downstream from the former KAFB through water-quality data collection activities.

Authorization of this agreement will support the continued operation and maintenance of two water quality monitors in this section of Leon Creek for the period of October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006. This project maintains collaborations with other agencies to improve data collection and analysis of weather conditions, water quality, and stream flows in the San Antonio River Basin. A database of continuous stream flow and water quality information from the monitoring sites is maintained. The resulting records are available on the TCEQ web page for public review. Water quality parameters are measured and updated once per hour, while flow and precipitation data are transmitted every three to five minutes.

POLICY ANALYSIS

Approval of this ordinance will provide the residents living near the former Kelly Air Force Base with real-time data on Leon Creek water quality and thereby address pollution concerns brought forth by the community. The project also determines baseline conditions and monitors long-term changes in water quality for Leon Creek, which flows through the former KAFB. The project will also identify emergencies, such as chemical spills and floods.

FISCAL IMPACT

The \$57,490.00 cost of this agreement will be paid from SAMHD's Public Center for Environmental Health (PCEH), a program funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of the Air Force.

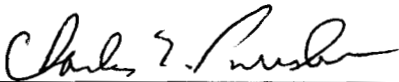
Acceptance of this agreement will place no demand on the City General Fund.

COORDINATION

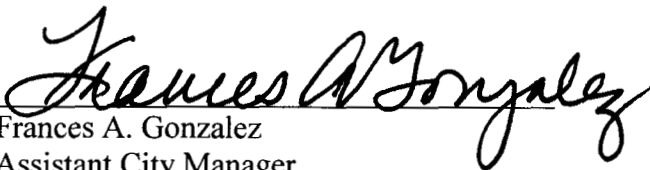
The City Attorney's Office and the Human Resources Department, Risk Management Division, have reviewed the joint funding agreement. The Finance Department has been apprised of this action.

SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS

Provisions of the Ethics Ordinance do not apply.

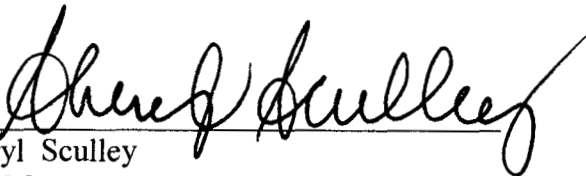


Fernando A. Guerra, MD, MPH
Director of Health, San Antonio Metropolitan Health District



Frances A. Gonzalez
Assistant City Manager

Approved for Council Consideration:



Sheryl Sculley
City Manager