



Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: July 31, 2012

Prepared By/Phone Number: David A. Salazar 854-4107

Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head: Sherri E. Fleming,
County Executive for Health and Human Services and Veterans Service

Commissioners Court Sponsor: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

Consider and Take Appropriate Action to Authorize Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service to Accept the Donation of Weatherization Equipment from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) for Use in Travis County Housing Services.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:

Travis County Commissioner's Court has prioritized support for the communities it serves by providing home repair and weatherization services via general fund investments and overseeing grant funding through the operation of Travis County Housing Services.

Travis County staff was contacted by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) about the possibility of taking possession of assessment equipment, i.e., Blower Doors and Duct Blasters. This equipment was previously used in servicing ARRA grant weatherization programs and is also used in assessing homes eligible for participation in TDHCA grant programs. The equipment is owned by TDHCA and is currently in Corsicana, Texas. If the Court approves acceptance of these items, staff is prepared to arrange the pickup and formal transfer of ownership of the equipment from the State of Texas to Travis County.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommends acceptance of the equipment described in Attachment A as Travis County Property.

AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE: All agenda requests and supporting materials must be submitted as a pdf to Cheryl Aker in the County Judge's office, Cheryl.Aker@co.travis.tx.us by **Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m.** for the next week's meeting.

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

Travis County has historically been awarded and administers grant funds from TDHCA to be used to assist low-income households to achieve a level of energy efficiency by providing weatherization assistance to the residences. In accordance with the parameters of the grants, the benefit of weatherizing these households and reducing their home energy needs improves the ability to become energy self-sufficient. The proposed donated equipment will add capacity to Travis County's Housing Services to provide service in the field.

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Approval of this request would not increase the current County Budget. If approved, the Department will fund the annual maintenance and costs associated with the re-calibration of the items as allowable expenses through the TDHCA grants.

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

Leslie Browder, County Executive, PBO
Diana Ramirez, Budget Analyst, PBO
Susan Spataro, Travis County Auditor
Mary Etta Gerhardt, Assistant County Attorney
Laura Ward, Assistant County Attorney
Cyd Grimes, Travis Purchasing Agent
Ron Dube, Fixed Asset Manager

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**TRAVIS COUNTY HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES
and VETERANS SERVICE**
502 E. Highland Mall Blvd.
P. O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767

Sherri E. Fleming
County Executive for HHS&VS
(512) 854-4100
Fax (512) 279-1608

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 24, 2012

To: Members of the Travis County Commissioners Court

From: *Sherri E. Fleming*
Sherri E. Fleming, County Executive for
Health and Human Services and Veterans Service

Subject: Donation of Weatherization Equipment to Travis County Health and
Human Services and Veterans Service

Proposed Motion:

Consider and Take Appropriate Action to Authorize Travis County Health and Human Services and Veterans Service to Accept the Donation of Weatherization Equipment from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) for Use in Travis County Housing Services.

Summary and Staff Recommendations:

Travis County staff was contacted by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) about the possibility of taking possession of assessment equipment, i.e., Blower Doors and Duct Blasters. This equipment was previously used in servicing ARRA grant weatherization programs and is also used in assessing homes eligible for participation in TDHCA grant programs. The equipment is owned by TDHCA and is currently in Corsicana, Texas. If the Court approves acceptance of these items, staff can arrange the pickup and formal transfer of the equipment from the State to Travis County.

Staff recommends acceptance of the equipment described in Attachment A as Travis County Property.

Budgetary and Fiscal Impacts:

Approval of this request would not increase the County Budget. If approved, the Department will fund the annual maintenance and costs associated with the recalibration of the items as allowable expenses through the TDHCA grants.

Issues and Opportunities:

Travis County has historically been awarded and administers grant funds from TDHCA to be used to assist low-income households to achieve a level of energy efficiency by providing weatherization assistance to the residences. In accordance with the parameters of the grants, the benefit of weatherizing these households and reducing their home energy needs improves the ability to become energy self-sufficient. The proposed donated equipment will add capacity to Travis County's Housing Services to provide service in the field.

Acceptance of these donated items would be consistent with the County's ongoing commitment.

Background:

Travis County Commissioner's Court has prioritized support for the communities it serves by providing home repair and weatherization services via general fund investments and overseeing grant funding through the operation of Travis County Housing Services.

cc: Leslie Browder, County Executive, PBO
Diana Ramirez, Budget Analyst, PBO
Susan Spataro, Travis County Auditor
Mary Etta Gerhardt, Assistant County Attorney
Laura Ward, Assistant County Attorney
Cyd Grimes, Travis Purchasing Agent
Ron Dube, Fixed Asset Manager
Deborah Britton, Director, Community Services, TCHHS&VS

Description of Equipment

3 - Blower Doors

Make/Model	Serial/ID #	Value
Minneapolis		\$3000.00
Minneapolis		\$3000.00
Minneapolis		\$3000.00

3 - Duct Blasters

Make/Model	Serial/ID #	Value
Minneapolis		\$2500.00
Minneapolis		\$2500.00
Minneapolis		\$2500.00

Located at:

Utility Assistance: Community Services, Inc.
401 East 6th Ave P.O. Box 612
Corsicana, TX 75151
(903) 875-3727

The pickup contact is Tim Boyd at (903) 875-3727