



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 20

**Agenda Date:** December 9, 2021

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Health Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Claude Jacob

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

An ordinance approving an Interlocal Agreement with Texas A&M University-San Antonio (TAMU-SA) to provide the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health)'s Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) section with mosquito speciation services in an amount of up to \$19,200.00 for a term ending December 31, 2022.

**SUMMARY:**

This ordinance approves the execution of an Interlocal Agreement with TAMU-SA to provide mosquito speciation services in an amount of up to \$19,200.00 for a period beginning January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022, with the option to renew for four consecutive one-year terms for a total amount of \$96,000.00 inclusive of renewals.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

In 2017, Metro Health's PHEP section partnered internally with the Vector Control Section, Epidemiology section, Laboratory Response Network (LRN), and externally with Bexar County Vector Control, TAMU-SA, Joint Base San Antonio, and both City and County Office of Emergency Management. Through this partnership, an initial agreement with TAMU-SA, executed in 2017, allowed for the development and maintenance of the countywide Mosquito Surveillance Response Plan to trap, collect, count, identify via speciation, analyze specimens for

West Nile Virus, and immediately treat positive mosquito pools once identified to minimize positive mosquitoes from infecting residents across Bexar County. Resulting data provided by TAMU-SA has determined severity, and potential illness transmission within an identified neighborhood. This has been done through the monitoring of 30 selected hotspot locations within Bexar County.

In addition to speciation monitoring, TAMU-SA has provided education to community members regarding the minimization of mosquito breeding and protection against mosquito-borne illnesses. West Nile Virus, for example, has the potential to cause clinical encephalitis that can severely affect the nervous system of individuals that could lead to death.

An ordinance approving an Interlocal Agreement with TAMU-SA will allow for the continued mosquito speciation identification of mosquitoes collected across the 30 pool locations in Bexar County to reduce mosquito-borne illnesses.

**ISSUE:**

Metro Health requests City Council approval for the execution of an Interlocal Agreement with TAMU-SA to provide mosquito speciation services. The agreement will ensure a two-day turnaround time of West Nile Virus results, allowing Vector Control, both City and County, to rapidly respond to conduct mosquito abatement to a West Nile Virus infected area in our community.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Should this agreement not be approved, Metro Health will not be able to move forward with mosquito speciation services, hindering the City and County from rapid detection through the local Mosquito Control Program. This would require Metro Health to submit specimens to Department of State Health Services, increasing the turnaround time to 2-3 weeks.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Funding for this agreement is available and budgeted in the General Fund.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends City Council approve the execution of the Interlocal Agreement with TAMU-SA to provide mosquito speciation services in an amount of up to \$19,200.00 for a period beginning January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022, with the option to renew for four consecutive one-year terms for a total amount of \$96,000.00 inclusive of renewals.