



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT

Authorizing Acceptance of Funds from the Department of Homeland Security for Laboratory Support

Presented by: Dr. Vincent Nathan, Interim Health Director

Agenda Item # xx

November 10, 2016



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT

Background

- Metro Health's laboratory services branch provides analytical support for various public health programs and is host to the BioWatch program, the nation's first environmental early detection and warning system.
- The Department of Homeland Security partners with public health laboratories to conduct rapid analysis and provide information and expertise to governors and local emergency officials when a pathogen is detected and determine whether it indicates a potential biological incident.



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Background

- This funding opportunity will provide laboratory infrastructure support for BioWatch program activities.
- A need has been identified to make improvements to new laboratory facilities which will enhance the safety and efficiency of laboratory operations.



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Fiscal Impact

This Ordinance authorizes the acceptance of funds from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for an amount not to exceed \$62,500.00 for laboratory infrastructure support. Host laboratories will be required to submit an invoice no later than September 30, 2017. In addition, DHS has authorized Metro Health to retain interest income earned with no restrictions.



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Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the Ordinance authorizing the acceptance of funds from the Department of Homeland Security in an amount not to exceed \$62,500.00 for laboratory infrastructure support and improvements to new laboratory facilities.