



COMMISSIONERS COURT  
COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

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DATE: 04/02/2024

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 7 TO THE INTERLOCAL COOPERATION CONTRACT BETWEEN TARRANT COUNTY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE TARRANT COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S NORTH TEXAS SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM**

**\*\*\* CONSENT AGENDA \*\*\***

**COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED**

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve Amendment No. 7 to the Interlocal Cooperation Contract, No. HHS00069620001, between Tarrant County and the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) for the Tarrant County Public Health Department's (TCPH) North Texas Syndromic Surveillance (NTXSS) Program.

**BACKGROUND**

This Interlocal Cooperation Contract allows TCPH, as part of the NTXSS Program, to submit data to the state syndromic surveillance system, assess and control the quality of the data, recruit new hospitals, and train users in Public Health Region 2 and 3 to better use syndromic surveillance.

The TCPH NTXSS Program includes near-real time data on emergency department (ED) visits and emergency medical services (EMS) responses. Syndromic surveillance provides public health officials with a timely system for detecting, understanding, and monitoring health events. By tracking symptoms of patients during ED visits, before a diagnosis is confirmed, public health can detect unusual levels of illness and determine whether a response is warranted. Syndromic surveillance data serves as an early warning system for public health concerns.

Though syndromic surveillance is not a statutory requirement for TCPH, the ability to receive and monitor syndromic surveillance data is vital to both public health and hospitals. This capability allows all functional areas to make data driven decisions. Hospitals are required to submit syndromic surveillance data to public health under the Medicare Meaningful Use Program.

On January 28, 2020, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #132017, approved the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Interlocal Cooperation Contract which provided \$250,153.00 in federal funding with an expiration date of July 31, 2020.

On April 14, 2020, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #132596, approved Amendment No. 1 to the Interlocal Cooperation Contract to add FY 2021 funding in the amount of \$250,153.00, bringing the not-to-exceed amount to \$500,306.00. In addition, the term of the contract was extended through July 1, 2021.

SUBMITTED BY:	Public Health	PREPARED BY: APPROVED BY:	Rasneet Kumar Angela Hagy
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On November 10, 2020, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #134209, approved Amendment No. 2 to the Interlocal Cooperation Contract to decrease the FY 2021 budget by \$3,255.00, bringing the not-to-exceed amount to \$497,051.00.

On April 27, 2021, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #135326, approved Amendment No. 3 to the Interlocal Cooperation Contract to add \$250,173.00 for FY 2022, bringing the not-to-exceed amount to \$747,224.00. In addition, the term of the contract was extended through July 31, 2022.

On March 22, 2022, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order # 137768, approved Amendment No. 4 to the Interlocal Cooperation Contract to add \$250,173.00 for FY 2023, bringing the not-to-exceed amount to \$997,397.00. In addition, the term of the contract was extended through July 31, 2023

On January 24, 2023, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order # 140175, approved Amendment No. 5 to the Interlocal Cooperation Contract, revising the financial reporting requirements in the Statement of Work.

On May 16, 2023, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order # 140910, approved Amendment No. 6 to the Interlocal Cooperation Contract to add \$90,075.00 for FY 2024, bringing the not-to-exceed amount to \$1,087,472.00. In addition, the contract term was extended through July 31, 2024.

With approval of Amendment No. 7, funding in the amount of \$149,995.00 will be added to the contract for FY 2024, bringing the not-to-exceed amount to \$1,237,397.00. Funding will be used for personnel expenses related to 1.5 existing full-time equivalents and for contractual costs. The grant term remains August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024. All other terms and conditions not hereby amended remain in full force and effect.

The Budget and Risk Management Department has reviewed the amended budget.

The Criminal District Attorney's Office has approved this document as to form.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

All associated costs will be paid from grant fund allocations in Grant F0081-2024.

There is no indirect costs, match, or operating subsidy required for this grant contract funding.