



City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 25-2351, **Agenda Item #:** 39.

11/20/2025

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a lease agreement with Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 for approximately 10,000 square feet of land located at 19915 FM 973 North, Coupland, Texas 78615 for the installation and operation of a communications tower, radio equipment shelter, and associated improvements, together with an access driveway and utility corridor, for an initial lease term of 20 years plus two additional 10-year extension options, at no cost to the City. This property is located outside of the City's extraterritorial jurisdiction. Funding: This item has no fiscal impact.

Lead Department

Austin Financial Services.

Fiscal Note

No Fiscal Impact.

For More Information:

Brandon Williamson, Austin Financial Services, 512-974-5666; Michael Gates, Austin Financial Services, 512-974-5639; Pushpa Srinivasa, Austin Technology Services, 512-972-3209.

Additional Backup Information:

The proposed lease agreement is to accommodate the City's installation and operation of a communications tower, radio equipment shelter, and associated improvements on Travis County Emergency Services District #2 land located at 19915 FM 973 North, Coupland, TX 78615 to serve the Greater Austin/Travis County Regional Radio System (GATRRS). In addition, an access driveway and utility corridor for the purpose of ingress and egress and utility connection to and from the tower area will be installed.

In lieu of rent payments, Travis County Emergency Services District (TCESD) #2 will be permitted to install its VHF two-way radio base/repeater antenna(s) and antenna transmission line on the City's planned radio tower. TCESD #2 will also be permitted to house its base/repeater radio and related equipment within the City's equipment shelter at said address, with the City to provide commercial alternating current electrical and alternating current backup generator power at no cost.

The current GATRRS partnership consists of the City, Travis County, UT-Austin, and AISD. An April 2004 interlocal agreement designated the City as the managing partner with authority to execute contracts and agreements on behalf of the partnership. GATRRS currently operates from 17 other tower sites or building tops in this area to provide two-way radio communications to all City and Travis County departments that use public safety and public service radios, AISD, UT-Austin, and multiple other municipalities, districts, state, and federal agencies in Austin and Travis County. Most local governments in central Texas rely on GATRRS for this essential responder radio communications. Council has also approved that the GATRRS "core" system server/controller be used to power GATRRS "Affiliate" Subsystems in 47 other Texas counties. Six of those are contiguous CAPCOG counties.

The Strategic Facilities Governance Team has reviewed and approved the proposed lease agreement.

