

MEMORANDUM

To: Don Keil, Mayor
Seguin City Council

Cc: Douglas G. Faseler, City Manager

From: Josh Schneuker, Interim Director of Economic Development

Date: October 18, 2016

Re: Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Advanced Technology and Manufacturing Academy
and the Information and Technology Security Academy Funding

The City of Seguin and the Seguin Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) partner annually with the City of New Braunfels to support the operations of the Central Texas Technology Center (CTTC). The CTTC was established to address regional workforce development needs in the region. One such program that is operating through the CTTC is the Alamo Academies. The Alamo Academies, which is overseen by the Alamo Colleges, provides education, experience and job opportunities for high school students to make a transition from high school to college and/or the workplace. This partnership between industry and higher education provides Seguin area youth with tuition-free career pathways into critical into critical demand technical occupations. Alamo Colleges offers two academies through the CTTC for area students to enroll in: The Advanced Technology and Manufacturing Academy (ATMA) and the Information and Technology Security Academy (ITSA). The programs utilize industry-driven curriculums that results in graduates entering higher education or high wage careers in manufacturing or information technology. Students receive training in high-wage demand occupations during their junior and senior years of high school. They also earn college credits and participate in paid internships in local industries. Participating employers benefit from the program through access to a pipeline of skilled entry-level workers trained to their specifications. Half of the student's classes are taken at the high school and the remainder are taken at the CTTC. In Seguin, this program is open to students at Seguin and Navarro High Schools.

Attached you will find a funding resolution for \$69,500 from SEDC for the continued annual funding of the Alamo Academies Advanced Technology and Manufacturing Academy and the Information and Technology Security Academy through the Central Texas Technology Center. This funding is provided by the Seguin Economic Development Corporation to assist in the funding for textbooks and testing costs so that Seguin and Navarro High School students may take advantage of these valuable programs who might otherwise not be able to afford them. The SEDC included this funding as part of their Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budget and approved the expenditure at their September board meeting. The SEDC Board finds that the funding for these academies will support the goals of having a well-trained and work-ready local workforce, which will in turn attract and retain existing businesses. Since the expenditure is in excess of \$50,000, City Council must approve the expenditure before it can be processed.