



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-2375, **Agenda Item #:** 45.

7/29/2020

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20190910-001) to accept and appropriate an additional \$20,543 in CARES Act grant funds from the Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs, Community Services Block Grant for the delivery of basic needs, case management, employment support, rent and utility assistance, and preventive health services to low-income residents affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$20,543 is available from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Community Services Block Grant. The contract period of this funding runs from March 27, 2020 through July 31, 2021 and will expire on July 31, 2021, unless an extension is granted. A City funding match is not required. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

May 21, 2020 - City Council approved an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20190910-001) to accept and appropriate \$1,477,193 CARES Act grant funds from the Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs, Community Services Block Grant for the delivery of basic needs, case management, employment support, rent and utility assistance, and preventive health services to low-income residents affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, approved on an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

The City receives an annual formula-based Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). The CSBG grant provides administrative support to a network of local Community Action Agencies that provide services to low-income residents. The City is considered the "Community Action Agency" for Travis County. The grant program provides funding for the delivery of basic needs, case management, preventive health and employment support services to low-income residents through the City's six neighborhood centers and three field offices.

The goal of the grant is to assist persons affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds are stipulated to be used to assist Austin/Travis County low-income residents affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

On May 21, 2020, City Council approved Ordinance No. 20200521-20 amending the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20190910-001) to

accept and appropriate \$1,477,193 CARES Act grant funds. TDHCA, CSBG funding was increased from \$1,477,193 to \$1,497,736.

Approval of this item is time sensitive to ensure contracts can be executed for services to persons affected by the COVID-19 pandemic throughout 2020 to 2021.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, Austin Public Health Department's need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment; Economic Opportunity and Affordability.