



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 20-2616, **Agenda Item #:** 112.

7/29/2020

### **Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with The University of Texas at Austin-Dell Medical School to document food access needs in Austin/Travis County as a result of COVID-19, to appropriately allocate resources to organizations serving the community, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$45,630.

### **Lead Department**

Office of Sustainability

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$45,630 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget of the Austin Public Health Department. Funding for the agreement is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

### **For More Information:**

Lucia Athens, Chief Sustainability Officer, 512-974-7902; Stephanie Hayden, Austin Public Health Director, 512-972-5010; Edwin Marty, Food Policy Manager, 512-974-2120

### **Additional Backup Information:**

Under the interlocal agreement University of Texas at Austin-Dell Medical School will assist City of Austin Office of Sustainability (OOS) with identifying community needs related to food access in light of COVID-19. The goal of the project is to identify specific populations and areas in Austin/Travis County with the highest needs in order to appropriately allocate resources to organizations serving the community.

The project will be built on an analysis of United Way/2-1-1 call data from a report to be obtained and provided by OOS. Dell Medical School will be responsible for survey data collection with a focus on priority populations and will incorporate a phased approach to complete the project.

In the preliminary project phase, Dell Medical School will complete a data scan and gap analysis by:

- Conducting a scan of existing data collection efforts,
- Contacting partner organizations to coordinate data collecting and data sharing; and
- Analyzing existing data products to determine gaps in information regarding unmet food needs.

These efforts will result in the development of a report that delineates the findings and identifies the gaps in available data.

The subsequent phase of the project will be focused on survey data collection. Dell Medical School activities will include the following:

- Develop and test survey (in conjunction with contact tracing program),
- Survey outreach to priority populations: elderly, pregnant women, immunocompromised, 12 specific zip codes identified,
- Administer survey over two months,
- Create a call-in number and provide staff to administer the questionnaire,
- Direct survey respondents to resources as requested,

- Analyze survey results on a bi-weekly basis, and
- Report findings of survey results.

Upon completion of these tasks, Dell Medical School will provide the Office of Sustainability:

- Survey data for two months of collection,
- Two end-of-month reports on findings,
- Two mid-month summaries/updates on findings, and
- Updated data scan.

Council's authorization of this interlocal agreement will enable the Office of Sustainability to better utilize its resources to serve communities most impacted by COVID-19 through this partnership.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Government that Works for All, Economic Opportunity & Affordability, Health & Environment