



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Stephanie Hayden, Director 

DATE: July 22, 2020

SUBJECT: Staff Response to Resolution 20200604-049 Austin Public Health

On June 4, 2020, Council approved Resolution #20200604-049, authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute contracts with service providers to offer direct financial assistance to members of underserved communities impacted by COVID-19.

In response to this resolution, Austin Public Health will be contracting with the Austin Area Urban League, El Buen Samaritano, and the Family Independence initiative to quickly distribute \$2M of the \$12M in additional RISE funding. Those three contracts are in the process of being executed and have been placed on the July 29, 2020, Council agenda for ratification.

The remaining \$10M is available through a competitive solicitation for the implementation of a streamlined system to ease the burden of the application process for qualified applicants. Up to \$500,000 of the funding will be to contract for a phone bank to assist the public in submitting applications in an online portal. The \$665,000 will be for an online, central intake for all applications, the conducting of a lottery, and the disbursement of at least \$8,835,000 in either ACH transfer and debit cards.

Planned Timeline

- COVID-19 RISE 2.0 Solicitation Open - July 10, 2020
- COVID-19 RISE 2.0 Solicitation Close - July 22, 2020
- Award notifications - August 4, 2020
- Lottery Opens - August 17, 2020
- Lottery Closes - August 24, 2020
- Direct financial assistance distributed to those selected from the lottery by the beginning of September 2020.

If you have any questions or if I can provide additional information, please contact me at (512) 972-5010 or via email at Stephanie.Hayden@austintexas.gov



Cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde, Deputy City Manager
Chris Shorter, Assistant City Manager