



## Recommendation for Action

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**File #:** 20-2915, **Agenda Item #:** 142.

8/27/2020

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**Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with Workers Defense Project to provide direct financial assistance and legal assistance to support high-risk workers impacted by COVID-19 in an amount not to exceed \$3,300,000 for a five month term to end by December 30, 2020.

**Lead Department:**

Austin Public Health.

**Fiscal Note:**

Funding in the amount of \$3,300,000 is included in the COVID-19 Spending Framework (Resolution No. 20200604-040) as part of the Economic Support for Financial and Other Direct Support.

**Prior Council Action:**

June 4, 2020 - Council approved Resolution No. 20200604-040 adopting the COVID-19 proposed spending framework for the use of all available federal and local funding that maximizes the benefit of federal COVID-19 relief funding and local funding, with an 11-0 vote on the virtual dais.

May 21, 2020 - Council approved Resolution No. 20200521-038 directing the City Manager to establish a unified city strategy for high-risk workers, with an 11-0 vote on the virtual dais.

**For More Information:**

Stephanie Hayden, Director, 512-972-5010; Adrienne Sturup, Assistant Director, Health Equity and Community Engagement Division, 972-5167; Akeshia Smothers-Johnson, Interim Social Services Policy Manager, 512-972-5064; Lucy Thompson, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972- 5045.

**Additional Backup Information:**

This will authorize Austin Public Health to start an agreement with Workers Defense Project to provide direct financial assistance and legal assistance to Austin/Travis County residents who are high-risk workers impacted by COVID-19 in an amount not to exceed \$3,300,000, for a five month term to end by December 30, 2020.

High-risk workers are those who are most likely to be hospitalized if they are infected with COVID-19 or have members of their household who face such risks. This agreement will focus on individuals, and their families, who jobs are in a field that is highly susceptible to COVID-19 contact and thus are considered high risk.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.