



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-2994, **Agenda Item #:** 30.

9/17/2020

Posting Language

Ratify an agreement with Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid to provide emergency eviction counseling and prevention services for COVID-19 impacted households in an amount not to exceed \$220,000 for the term August 17, 2020 through August 31, 2021.

Lead Department

Neighborhood Housing and Community Development.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$220,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Neighborhood Housing and Community Development's Operating Budget. This item has no fiscal impact.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

On March 6, 2020, a Declaration of Local Disaster was issued by Mayor Adler to allow the City to take measures to avoid the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) across the city and county. On March 13, 2020, Governor Abbot issued a Declaration of State of Disaster that allowed for additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The Stay Home - Work Safe Order was issued March 24, 2020, to establish social distancing, and was extended on July 3, 2020. In order to provide urgently needed emergency eviction counseling and prevention services to households impacted by COVID-19 pandemic, a contract for \$220,000 was issued to Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid to provide emergency eviction counseling services.

Under the contract, the Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid (TRLA) will represent low-income and underserved populations who have been financially impacted by COVID-19 and are facing eviction due to nonpayment of rent. TRLA will provide services that include negotiating with landlords and appearing in court proceedings.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.