



## Recommendation for Action

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**File #:** 20-3092, **Agenda Item #:** 100.

9/17/2020

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### **Posting Language**

Approve negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 7 to the agreement with Front Steps, Inc. to provide shelter and housing services to homeless individuals, to add one extension option beginning September 1, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$176,337 for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$1,636,611.

### **Lead Department**

Austin Public Health.

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$176,337 is available from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Homeless Housing and Services Program Funds, with a grant period of September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021 in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget.

### **Prior Council Action:**

On December 11, 2014, Council approved negotiation and execution of a contract with Front Steps, Inc., for a nine-month term through August 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$276,314 in grant funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Homeless Housing and Services Program, with five 12-month renewal options in an amount not to exceed \$276,314 per renewal option, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,657,884, on a vote of 7-0.

### **For More Information:**

Stephanie Hayden, Director, 512 972 5017; Adrienne Sturup, Assistant Director, 512 972 5167; Akeshia Johnson Smothers, Social Services Policy Manager; 512 972 5567, Estella Kirscht, Agenda Coordinator, 512 972 5039.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

Approval of this item will authorize Austin Public Health to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 7 to the agreement with Front Steps, Inc. to provide shelter and housing services to homeless individuals, to add one extension option beginning September 1, 2020 in an amount not to exceed \$176,337 for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$1,636,611.

Amendment No. 6 exercised the fifth extension option in the amount of \$176,337 beginning September 1, 2019.

Amendment No. 5 exercised the fourth extension option in the amount of \$284,372 beginning September 1, 2018.

Amendment No. 4 exercised the third extension option in the amount of \$250,959 beginning September 1, 2017.

Amendment No. 3 exercised the second extension option in the amount of \$195,978 beginning September 1, 2016.

Amendment No. 2 modified program agreement exhibits.

Amendment No. 1 exercised the first extension option in the amount of \$276,314 beginning September 1, 2015.

The current social services agreement with Front Steps, Inc. is funded through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA), Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP) Funds and was originally approved by Council for a nine-month term through August 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$276,314, with five 12-month renewal options in an amount not to exceed \$276,314 per renewal option, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,657,884. The program provides case management and financial assistance for homeless individuals who are residing on the streets, and at the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH). The contract also provides funds for operational costs for ARCH.

The general fund will not be required to contribute to this grant.

The HHSP grant was initially authorized by the Texas Legislature in the 81st Legislative Session. It was the first program that authorized state funding for homeless services and homelessness prevention. The appropriation is divided among the eight largest cities in Texas according to population. TDHCA was assigned to administer the HHSP grant and contracts with Austin Public Health for the funding.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.