



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-3159, **Agenda Item #:** 13.

10/1/2020

Posting Language

Authorize ratification of a contract amendment with United Way for Greater Austin to disburse a total of \$1,048,000 in emergency funds to childcare providers in need of relief as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The additional funding of \$148,000 comes from the Mayor and Council FY 2019-20 Operating budget, from Council Member Delia Garza's Office budget. United Way for Greater Austin's fee for administration of these funds is an amount not to exceed \$100,000 with an option to amend and extend the term and administrative fee should additional grant funds become available to administer.

Lead Department

Economic Development Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$148,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Mayor and Council Department Operating Budget.

Prior Council Action:

May 7, 2020 - Approved Resolution No. 20200507-023 directing the City Manager to develop an initial program directed towards sustaining small and local non-profit organizations and businesses using a portion of federal dollars designated for pandemic-related relief, and partner in the creation of a regional Economic Response Dashboard.

June 4, 2020 - Approved Resolution No. 20200604-40 adopting the COVID-19 proposed spending framework for the use of all available federal and local funding that leverages and maximizes the benefit of federal COVID-19 relief funding and local funding.

June 4, 2020 - Approved a Resolution 20200604-049 <<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=341189>> authorizing the City Manager to review the process for providing direct financial relief to underserved communities based on the RISE Fund framework and to adjust that process to streamline the intake and management of the funding for the benefit of the individuals being served; and directing the City Manager to return with a budget amendment if necessary to add funding to the RISE Fund.

For More Information:

Sylvia Holt-Rabb, Acting Director, Economic Development Department, 512-974-3131.

Additional Backup Information:

In response to financial hardships caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, Austin City Council established the Childcare Support Program. Following the City Council's direction, the City of Austin Economic Development Department (EDD) sought a third-party non-profit to administer these relief programs. EDD evaluated third parties based on their experience providing direct program delivery and administration assistance, including managing local, state, federal or private funding to assist in grant administration.

The Contractor provides administrative oversight, facilitation, and holistic program delivery in issuing recovery

grants to eligible grant applicants of Council-authorized programs.

The deliverables and activities within this Scope of Work require the Contractor to administer activities during nontraditional hours. The Contractor is flexible in working to achieve the goals of the Scope of Work. The program contractual responsibilities are deployed in a safe manner and in accordance with social distancing standards. The grant funds provide temporary, immediate and equitably-focused financial assistance to childcare centers and family care providers, a targeted population for relief funding.

The additional funding of \$148,000 comes from the Mayor and Council Operating Fund, from Mayor Pro Tem Delia Garza. United Way for Greater Austin's fee for administration of these funds is an amount not to exceed \$100,000 with an option to amend and extend the term and administrative fee should additional grant funds become available to administer.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.