



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-3334, **Agenda Item #:** 69.

10/15/2020

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 to provide economic recovery support to local businesses impacted by COVID-19 and to support emergency food access for caregivers of students in Austin-area schools who are experiencing food shortages due to COVID-19; and declaring an emergency. Related to Item #77.

Lead Department

Budget Office

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$1,500,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund Operating Budget. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

October 1, 2020 - Council approved an amendment to a contract with Austin Public Education Foundation, dba Austin Ed Fund, to provide economic recovery support to local businesses and for emergency food access for caregivers of students in Austin-area schools to increase funding and extend the contract term, on an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

Ed Van Eenoo, Financial Services, Deputy Chief Financial Officer / 974-2638

Additional Backup Information:

This action amends the General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund by increasing appropriations in an amount not to exceed up to \$1,500,000 to provide economic recovery support to local businesses impacted by COVID-19 and to support emergency food access for caregivers of students in Austin-area schools who are experiencing food shortages due to COVID-19. This funding will be appropriated within the Emergency Reserve Fund. The City expects to realize additional sales tax revenue beyond what was estimated at the time the Fiscal Year 2021 budget was approved by Council on August 12, 2020. This action would utilize the projected excess revenue for this purpose.

These funds will be used for emergency food access for caregivers of students who are in Austin-area schools. Local vendors impacted by COVID-19 and experiencing business interruptions as a result thereof will prepare the caregiver meals to assist with economic recovery efforts and ensure vendors' employees maintain employment as a result of this additional funding. Funding of \$1,500,000 will provide an estimated ten weeks of meals. Of this total, \$600,000 is needed to ratify the existing contract and provide four additional weeks of meals. The remaining \$900,000 will provide an additional six more weeks of meals.

In accordance with the City's approved financial policies, the General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund shall be used to provide for temporary financing for unanticipated or unforeseen extraordinary needs of an emergency nature, such as related to a natural disaster or calamity or an unexpected liability created by Federal or State

legislative action.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Government that Works for All