



## Recommendation for Action

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**File #:** 21-1166, **Agenda Item #:** 29.

2/4/2021

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### **Posting Language**

Ratify an amendment to an interlocal agreement with the Housing Authority of the City of Austin to provide emergency rental assistance for households impacted by COVID-19 for the term January 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022, in the amount of \$3,200,000, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$19,100,000.

### **Lead Department**

Housing and Planning Department.

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$3,200,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Housing and Planning Department's Operating Budget.

### **Prior Council Action:**

September 17, 2020- Council ratified and authorized the negotiation and execution of an amendment to an interlocal agreement with the Housing Authority of the City of Austin to provide emergency rental assistance for households impacted by COVID-19 in an amount not to exceed \$15,900,000 for the term August 10, 2020 through January 31, 2021. The item was approved on consent on Council Member Pool's motion, Mayor Pro Tem Garza's second, on an 11-0 vote.

### **For More Information:**

Rosie Truelove, Director, Housing and Planning Department, 512-974-3064; Nefertitti Jackmon, Policy and Planning Manager, Housing and Planning Department, 512- 974-3196.

### **Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:**

n/a.

### **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 Abbott 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 Housing and Planning Department executed an Interlocal Agreement with the Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA), enabling a strong local partner to assist with deploying more than \$12.9M in emergency rental assistance funded with CARES Act dollars and local dollars made available in Fiscal Year 2019-20. These funds were able to serve 4,322 households, paying for 11,386 months of rent. However, the total number of active applicants left unserved is 520, with more than 1,500 applicants remaining on the waitlist.

In order to continue providing urgently needed emergency rental assistance to households impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, an amendment to the interlocal agreement to increase the amount by \$3,200,000 was needed.

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**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.