



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-1978, **Agenda Item #:** 26.

6/3/2021

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to accept and appropriate \$93,522 in grant funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Community Services Block Grant Discretionary Funds for the provision of rental assistance to prevent eviction of low-income Austin/Travis County residents affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Related to Item 21-1977.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$93,522 is available from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Community Services Block Grant Discretionary Funds. The grant period for this funding runs from February 11, 2021 through August 31, 2021, unless terminated. A City funding match is not required. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

July 29, 2020 - Council approved an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20190910-001) to accept and appropriate CARES ACT grant funds, on an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

Austin receives an annual formula-based Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). The CSBG grant provides administrative support to a network of local Community Action Agencies that provide services to low-income residents. Austin is considered the "Community Action Agency" for Travis County. The related grant program provides funding for the delivery of basic needs, case management, preventive health services, and employment support services to low-income residents through the City's six neighborhood centers and three field offices.

Austin has previously received CSBG Discretionary Funds and is a recipient of such funds this year.

The goal of CSBG Discretionary Funds is to assist persons affected by the COVID-19 pandemic with rental assistance. This is a non-renewable grant available from February 11, 2021 through August 31, 2021. The funds are stipulated to be used to assist Austin/Travis County low-income residents affected by the COVID-19 pandemic with rental assistance.

This Council item is time sensitive to ensure contracts can be executed for services to be provided to persons

affected by the COVID-19 pandemic through August 31, 2021.

The approved Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget for TDHCA related to the CARES ACT CSBG funds is as follows:

Sub-recipient	FY 2020-2021 CSBG Discretionary Funds Plan Allocation
Austin Area Urban League	\$85,020 (Rental Assistance)
Administration	\$8,502
Total	\$93,522

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, Austin Public Health Department's need for continued funding will be evaluated and may be denied.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.