Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-2370, Agenda Item #: 64.

7/29/2021

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 \$14,804 in additional grant funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for the Ending Homelessness Fund.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$14,804 is available from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. A City funding match is not required. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

On August 12, 2020 - Council approved an ordinance adopting the City of Austin Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, beginning on October 1, 2020, and ending on September 30, 2021 (Ordinance No. 20200812-001), that included a \$37,000 grant for the Texas Ending Homelessness Fund, on an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

Adrienne Sturrup, Interim Director, 512-972-5167; Laura G. La Fuente, Interim Assistant Director for Health Equity and Community Engagement, 512-972-5077, Akeshia Johnson Smothers, Social Services Policy Manager, 512-972-5567; Ruth Dalrymple, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5024.

Additional Backup Information:

On April 30, 2021, the City received notification of a funding allocation for Austin in the amount of \$51,804 for a program period of August 1, 2021 to July 31, 2022.

This action will authorize Austin Public Health to accept and appropriate an additional \$14,804 in grant funds, which represents the difference between the approved appropriation for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 and the revised total grant award of \$51,804.

The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) recently released the Ending Homelessness Fund (EHF) for cities receiving other TDHCA funding for homeless services. These funds come from the voluntary contributions of Texans during Vehicle Registration. This is the first year that allocations will be made available from the EHF. The program design reflects the current Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP) administered by TDHCA and the grant period is August 1, 2021 to July 31, 2022.

Austin Public Health will allocate EHF funding to provide financial assistance to support the HHSP-Youth Set Aside Program for operations, transitional housing, case management, street outreach and housing assistance for homeless youth and young adults up to age 24 through its partnership with the Youth and Family Alliance, Inc., d/b/a LifeWorks. LifeWorks is the recipient of funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban

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Development (also known as HUD) for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program and coordinates with several community partners to end youth homelessness. Performance measures will be negotiated during contract development.

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.