

Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-2737, Agenda Item #: 31.

8/26/2021

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 an additional \$696,602 in grant funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for the Homeless Housing and Services Program and the Homeless Housing and Services Program Youth Set-Aside. Related to Item #32.

Lead Department:

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note:

Funding in the amount of \$696,602 is available from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. A City funding match is not required. A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

This action will authorize Austin Public Health to accept and appropriate an additional \$696,602 in grant funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for the Homeless Housing and Services Program and the Homeless Housing and Services Program Youth Set-Aside.

On July 8, 2021, the City received notification of the 2021 allocation of funding for Austin in the following grants: 1) Homeless Housing and Services Program (HHSP) with \$533,722 and 2) Homeless Housing and Services Program Youth Set-Aside for \$162,880, for a total allocation of \$696,602 for the program period September 1, 2021 - August 31, 2022.

Austin Public Health will allocate HHSP funding to continue emergency shelter services, case management and housing assistance for single adults and families at the Salvation Army Social Service Center Emergency Shelter downtown and support the federal Emergency Solutions Grant program with financial assistance, case management, and shelter operations at the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (also known as the ARCH). Performance measures will be negotiated during contract development with these agencies. The HHSP was authorized by the Texas Legislature during the 81st Legislative Session. It was the first program that authorized state funding for homeless services and homelessness prevention.

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.