



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-2917, **Agenda Item #:** 79.

9/30/2021

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 8 to a contract with Front Steps Homeless Housing and Services Program to extend the contract term through August 30, 2022, for an amount not to exceed \$190,000, for a revised total agreement amount not to exceed \$1,826,611.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$190,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Austin Public Health Department's operating budget.

Prior Council Action:

On September 17, 2020 (20200917-100), Council authorized negotiation and execution of amendment No. 7 to provide shelter and housing services to homeless individuals, adding one extension option for the twelve-month term of September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021, in an amount not to exceed \$176,337, in grant funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Homeless Housing and Services Program, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,636,611. Approved on consent on a vote of 11-0.

On December 11, 2014 (20141211-039), Council authorized negotiation and execution of an agreement with Front Steps, Inc. to fund housing location services and financial assistance for homeless individuals and operations of the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless, for the nine-month term December 1, 2014 through August 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$276,314 in grant funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Homeless Housing and Services Program, with five 12-month renewal options in an amount not to exceed \$276,314 per renewal option, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$1,657,884. Approved on consent on a vote of 7-0.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

Approval of this item will authorize the Austin Public Health Department to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 8 with Front Steps to provide shelter and housing services to homeless individuals and to provide operational funds for the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless, to add one extension option beginning September 1, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$190,000, for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$1,826,611.

Amendment No. 7 exercised the sixth extension option in the amount of \$176,337 for the term September 1, 2020 through August 30, 2021 for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$1,636,611.

Amendment No. 6 exercised the fifth extension option in the amount of \$176,337 for the term September 1, 2019 through August 30, 2020.

Amendment No. 5 exercised the fourth extension option in the amount of \$284,372 for the term September 1, 2018 through August 30, 2019.

Amendment No. 4 exercised the third extension option in the amount of \$250,959 for the term September 1, 2017 through August 30, 2018

Amendment No. 3 exercised the second extension option in the amount of \$195,978 for the term September 1, 2016 through August 30, 2017.

Amendment No. 2 modified the program exhibits for the agreement.

Amendment No. 1 exercised the first extension option in the amount of \$276,314 for the term September 1, 2015 through August 30, 2016.

The Homeless Housing and Services Program was authorized by the Texas Legislature in the 81st Legislative Session. It was the first program that authorized state funding for homeless services and homelessness prevention. The appropriation is divided among the eight largest cities in Texas according to population. Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs was assigned to administer the Homeless Housing and Services Program grant.

This contract will fund the Front Steps Housing Placement Program to support the Emergency Solutions Grant Rapid Rehousing program with financial assistance and service coordination. Front Steps staff will coordinate case management and financial assistance for homeless individuals who are residing on the streets, at the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless, or who are homeless participants in the Emergency Solutions Grant program at the Downtown Austin Community Court or Austin Public Health Department - Communicable Disease Unit. The contract will also provide funds for operational costs for the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.