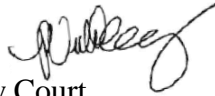




MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Peter Valdez, Court Administrator, Downtown Austin Community Court
Dianna Grey, Homeless Strategy Officer 

DATE: December 2, 2021

SUBJECT: Response to Fiscal Year 2021/22 Budget Rider regarding satellite storage and case management service and the ARPA Funding Plan

This memorandum serves as an initial response to the Fiscal Year 2021/22 Tovo Budget Rider 2 (Ordinance [20210811-001](#)) (<http://www.austintexas.gov/department/city-council/2021/20210811-reg.htm#001>) that gave direction, in part, to:

- Explore the creation of storage options and satellite Downtown Austin Community Court (DACC) facilities to serve individuals in areas which currently have few facilities serving individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Prioritize the unmet HOST and DACC needs in the [April 16, 2021 memorandum](#) (Memo) (<http://austintexas.gov/edims/pio/document.cfm?id=352435>) in the forthcoming Funding Plan directed in the Council resolution regarding the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) framework.

DACC staff is partnering with the Homeless Strategy Division (HSD) to identify potential locations for satellite DACC facilities and storage options. DACC and HSD will be exploring City facilities, as well as community partnerships to determine the best locations to meet individuals experiencing homelessness where they are for both storage and potential case management and/or resource navigation services. In identifying locations, DACC and HSD will be considering the proximity of existing and planned services for individuals experiencing homelessness. Additionally, along with this, consideration will be given to community engagement that would take place with any expansion of services.

On October 21, 2021, HSD presented an [Update on ARPA Homeless Response System Investments](#) (<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=369846>), including ongoing community engagement efforts and proposed allocation of funds within a framework organized by spending categories. The ARPA spending framework incorporated community feedback that was collected by HSD as part of the ARPA community engagement process. HSD is currently working with various City Departments, including Austin Public Health the Housing and Planning Department, and DACC, to convert the ARPA spending framework into a detailed funding plan that takes into account:

- the optimal sequencing of ARPA investments relative to the community's needs,

- where other funders of the Homeless Response System (e.g., Travis County and private funders) are committing their resources,
- provider's capacity to effectively deploy funds,
- City staff's capacity to solicit ARPA funds, and
- public and stakeholder input,

As part of this process, HSD and DACC are collaborating to categorize the needs identified in the April 16th Memo to align with the ARPA framework, and will determine how to best prioritize these and other items as the Funding Plan is developed.

All of these planning processes are actively ongoing, and staff will provide an update with potential options for the approach to satellite locations for storage programs for individuals experiencing homelessness and DACC walk-in case management services, and updates on the Funding Plan within the ARPA framework by February 15, 2022.

CC: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
CMO Executive Team
City Department Directors and Assistant Directors
Adrienne Sturup, Interim Director, Austin Public Health