



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 22-2040, **Agenda Item #:** 39.

6/16/2022

### Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with the Austin Area Urban League for housing and rental payment assistance to prevent homelessness of tenants who are low-income Austin residents affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, for a four-month term beginning June 16, 2022 through September 30, 2022 and one three-month extension option through December 29, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$1,051,299.

### Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

### Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$1,051,299 is available from the Housing and Planning Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund via the U.S. Department of Treasury, Emergency Rental Assistance Program. Funding for the remaining term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

### For More Information:

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### Additional Backup Information:

In 2021, Congress approved Section 501 of Division N of the Consolidated Appropriations Act that appropriated \$25 billion for the delivery of emergency rental assistance to eligible households suffering unemployment or other financial hardships due to the novel coronavirus pandemic. The U.S. Department of Treasury allocated these funds to States, the District of Columbia, U.S. Territories, Indian Tribes, Tribally Designated Housing Entities, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, and units of local government.

The City of Austin's Housing & Planning Department is utilizing \$1,051,299 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds from the Housing and Planning Department. The Austin Public Health Department provides basic needs, case management, preventive health, and employment support services to low-income residents through the City's six (6) neighborhood centers and three (3) field offices.

The goal of ARPA's Emergency Rental Assistance funds is to deliver emergency rental assistance to eligible households suffering unemployment or other financial hardships due to the novel coronavirus pandemic. The funds are stipulated to assist Austin/Travis County low-income residents affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This Council item is time sensitive to ensure contracts can be executed for services to persons affected by the COVID-19 pandemic throughout 2022.

The approved Treasury Department Texas Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget for these American Rescue Plan Act funds is as follows:

Sub-recipient	Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Annual Plan Allocations
Austin Area Urban League	\$955,726 Rental Assistance

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	\$95,573 Administration
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**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Health and Environment.