



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-2619, **Agenda Item #:** 190.

7/28/2022

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with Urban Alchemy to operate the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH) shelter for a thirteen and a half month term, beginning August 15, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$4,143,350.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$2,739,058 is included in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget, contingent on the City Council approval of an ordinance adopting the City of Austin Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. Funding in the amount of \$1,404,292 is included in the Fiscal year 2021-2022 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget.

For More Information

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Additional Backup Information

The ARCH is located at 500 East 7th Street in downtown Austin. The building is approximately 28,000 square feet with three floors and a garage. The ARCH provides housing-focused shelter and basic needs services to individuals ages 18+ who identify as men and are experiencing homelessness. The shelter is designed to help clients meet their basic needs, including acting as a gateway into a variety of programs and services designed to help move clients into stable housing as quickly as possible. The maximum number of individuals that sleep at the ARCH at night is 130.

This action will authorize negotiation and execution of a new social services agreement with Urban Alchemy for the operation of the ARCH shelter. This agreement was awarded via an emergency procurement. On July 18, 2022, Austin Public Health hosted nine organizations to present the opportunity. A tenth organization was included in the opportunity discussions on July 19, 2022. In response, one organization, Urban Alchemy, submitted an Interest Form for the ARCH emergency agreement. An internal committee reviewed the application and made a determination based on the information provided and Departmental priorities.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability; Health and Environment.