



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-2886, Agenda Item #: 36.

9/15/2022

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of agreements with three social service agencies to provide emergency shelter services for an initial 12-month term beginning October 1, 2022 in a combined amount not to exceed \$2,492,168, with one 12-month extension option in a combined amount not to exceed \$2,492,168, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$4,984,336 divided among the agencies.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$4,984,336 is available from the U.S. Department of Treasury, American Rescue Plan Act. Funding for the remaining term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Prior Council Action:

March 25, 2021 - Council approved the 'Resilient ATX' resolution (Resolution No. 20210325-111) directing the City Manager to take actions regarding the development of a spending framework for Covid-19 relief and recovery and American Rescue Plan funding, and directing the City Manager to provide an update on the City's Fiscal Year 2021 budget and projections for Fiscal Year 2022 revenues, on an 11-0 vote.

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 agreements with three social service agencies to provide emergency shelter services to individuals experiencing housing instability.

These agreements were awarded through the Request for Proposal (RFP) 2022-004 Homeless Crisis Response Services. The RFP was informed by the Homeless Strategy Division and released on March 31, 2022. Two optional virtual pre-bid meetings were conducted, one on April 4, 2022 and another on April 5, 2022. In addition, two optional virtual office hours meetings were also conducted, one on April 12, 2022 and May 3, 2022. Applications were due March 12, 2022. Over 650 vendors were solicited, resulting in fifteen proposals being submitted. Of those submitted, eight proposals related to emergency shelter and three were awarded.

The application evaluation process used set criteria to uniformly review all applicants evaluated by a separate and independent panel. A review panel comprised of individuals with education and expertise in the issue-area rated each application. Evaluators agreed upon strengths and weaknesses of each application, and each received a resultant score based on this process. The criteria for evaluation included the following: fiscal and administrative capacity, experience and cultural competence/racial equity, program design and performance metrics, data-informed program management, and cost effectiveness.

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law, establishing the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Program. The American Rescue Plan Act funds are intended to support ongoing recovery efforts in Austin and Travis County and respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency by meeting urgent community needs. The American Rescue Plan Act award funds will be used for activities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, including those related to food access and the local food system. The Austin Public Health Department awarded three proposals each with an initial base term of 12 months and one 12-month extension option.

Applications Funded in Response to RFP 2022-004 Homeless Crisis Response Services

Agency	Services	Initial Base Term Funding Amount	One 12-Month Extension Option Funding Amount	Total Contract, not to exceed, Funding Amount
The Other Ones Foundation	Emergency Shelter	\$1,891,620	\$1,891,620	\$3,783,240
Youth & Family Alliance dba Lifeworks	Emergency Shelter	\$386,948	\$386,948	\$773,896
The Salvation Army	Emergency Shelter	\$213,600	\$213,600	\$427,200
Emergency Shelter Total		\$2,492,168	\$2,492,168	\$4,984,336

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.