



## Recommendation for Action

**File #: 22-2905, Agenda Item #: 41.**

**9/15/2022**

### **Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 15 to an agreement with Caritas of Austin for the Best Single Source Plus Program to extend the current contract's homelessness prevention services, to add one 12-month extension option in an amount not to exceed \$850,000, for a revised total agreement amount not to exceed \$26,671,126.

### **Lead Department**

Austin Public Health.

### **Fiscal Note**

Funding in the amount of \$850,000 is included in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget.

### **Prior Council Action:**

September 2, 2021 - Council approved Amendment No. 13, adding an additional period to the contract from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 and increasing the overall agreement amount to \$25,821,126, on a 10-0 vote with Council Member Alter absent.

September 11, 2019 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20190911-001 adopting the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Operating Budget, which included \$1,500,000 in one-time funding for homeless campgrounds or alternatives, on a 10-1 vote with Council Member Flannigan voting no.

December 14, 2017 - Council approved Amendment No. 5, adding a 6% annual cost of living increase to the 37-month base agreement and each of the three extension options, on an 11-0 vote.

March 2, 2017 - Council approved Amendment No. 3, adding a 2.3% annual cost of living increase to the 37-month base agreement and each of the three extension options, on an 11-0 vote.

June 23, 2016 - Council approved Amendment No. 2, increasing the agreement by \$65,000 for flood disaster financial assistance activities, on a 10-0 vote with Council Member Zimmerman abstaining.

March 31, 2016 - Council approved Amendment No. 1, adding a 6% annual cost of living increase to the 37-month base agreement and each of the three extension options, on an 8-2 vote with Council Members Troxclair and Zimmerman voting no, Mayor Adler absent, and Mayor Pro Tem Tovo recusing herself on the portion related to Creative Action.

November 20, 2014 - Council approved the award, negotiation, and execution of the original agreement with Caritas of Austin in response to Request for Proposal No. EAD0116 for self-sufficiency social services, on a 6-0 vote with Council Member Tovo recusing herself from contracts associated with Theater Action Project/Creative Action.

---

**For More Information:**

Adrienne Sturup, Director, 512-972-5010; Laura LaFuente, Assistant Director, 512-972-5077; Akeshia Johnson Smothers, Community-Based Resources Unit Manager, 512-972-5567; Estella Kirscht, Administrative Specialist, 512-972-4423.

**Additional Backup Information:**

Caritas of Austin administers the Best Single Source Plus Program, which consists of 12 partner agencies providing homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing services. The Best Single Source Plus Program provides individuals and families in Austin/Travis County with comprehensive housing stability resources inclusive of case management and basic needs services. This program ensures that clients have access to necessities, starting with housing and extending to food, clothing, access to physical/mental health care, and other supportive services.

In October 2019, the Homeless Strategy Office partnered with the Ending Community Homelessness Coalition, the Austin Public Health Department, Downtown Austin Community Court, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development, and the Austin Police Department to co-convene the homeless provider community to design a strategy to address the encampments outside of the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless. The Guided Path Pilot Project aims to both reduce the health and safety risks for those living in encampments and prevent and end homelessness through long term solutions. Expanded case management services will be coordinated with other rapid re-housing resources to engage participants, locate and facilitate housing placement options, and provide housing stability services once participants exit homelessness into housing.

Amendment No. 14 modified program exhibits.

Amendment No. 13 extended the current program for one additional year.

Amendment No. 12 extended the current program for one additional year.

Amendment No. 9 expanded rapid re-housing case management services to support Guided Path efforts and future encampment resolution strategies.

Amendment No. 8 exercised the second extension option in the amount of \$3,702,268 for the period of October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020

Amendment No. 7 modified program exhibits.

Amendment No. 6 exercised the first extension option in the amount of \$3,702,268 for the period of October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019.

Amendment No. 5 added a 2.5% annual cost of living increase in the amount of \$90,299 to the 37-month base agreement.

Amendment No. 4 adjusted subgrantees for the 12-month period ending September 30, 2018.

Amendment No. 3 added a 2.3% annual cost of living increase in the amount of \$162,416 to the 37-month base agreement.

Amendment No. 2 included a one-time funding in the amount of \$65,000 for flood disaster financial assistance

activities.

Amendment No. 1 added a 6% annual cost of living increase in the amount of \$599,562 to the 37-month base agreement.

The social services agreement with Caritas of Austin for the BSS+C program was originally awarded through the 2014 Austin Public Health Self-Sufficiency Request for Applications with services beginning on September 1, 2015, for an initial 37-month term ending on September 30, 2018, in the amount of \$9,992,721, with three 12-month extension options in the amount of \$3,330,907 per extension option.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.