Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-3156, **Agenda Item #:** 87. 9/29/2022

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of agreements with four social service agencies to provide street outreach services for an initial 12-month term beginning October 1, 2022, in a combined amount not to exceed $2,007,832, with one 12-month extension option in a combined amount not to exceed $2,007,832, for a total agreement amount not to exceed $4,015,664 divided among the agencies.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of $4,015,664 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:

Adrienne Sturrup, 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:

Approval of this item will authorize the Austin Public Health Department to negotiate and execute four agreements with social service agencies to provide street outreach 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 March 31, 2022. Two optional pre-bid meetings were conducted on April 4, 2022, and April 5, 2022. In addition, two optional virtual office hours meetings were conducted, on April 12, 2022, and May 3, 2022. Applications were due May 12, 2022. Over 650 vendors were solicited, resulting in fifteen proposals submitted. Of those submitted, five proposals related to street outreach services and four 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 four 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
Youth and Family Alliance- Street Outreach	Street Outreach	$190,883	$190,883	$381,766
Urban Alchemy	Street Outreach	$1,042,224	$1,042,224	$2,084,448
Sunrise Community Church	Street Outreach	$390,000	$390,000	$780,000
Austin Area Urban League	Street Outreach	$384,725	$384,725	$769,450
	TOTAL	**$2,007,832**	**$2,007,832**	**$4,015,664**

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Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.

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