



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-3122, Agenda Item #: 24.

10/13/2022

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a one-year contract with the Austin Tenants Council to fund and administer the Tenants' Rights Assistance Program for community education and information about tenant protection laws in an amount not to exceed \$298,938.

Lead Department

Housing and Planning Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$298,938 is available in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Operating Budget of the Housing and Planning Department. Funding is contingent on the release of Fiscal Year 2022 federal funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant. This item has no fiscal impact.

Prior Council Action:

September 30, 2021 - Council authorized negotiation and execution of a one-year contract with the Austin Tenants Council to fund and administer the Renters Rights Assistance Program in an amount not to exceed \$290,620. The contract was for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

For More Information:

Rosie Truelove, Director, Housing and Planning Department, (512) 974-3064; or Susan Watkins, Community Development Manager, Housing and Planning Department, (512) 978-1725.

Additional Backup Information:

The Tenants' Rights Assistance Program provides tenants residing in Austin with the following services: 1) facilitated mediation services between landlords and low- to moderate-income tenants to complete health and safety related repairs in rental units, which helps maintain reasonable habitability standards; 2) counseling and technical assistance to low-income renters regarding tenant/landlord issues; and 3) identifying fair housing complaints that can be investigated and providing assistance with resolving, reducing, or minimizing discriminatory housing practices.

Austin Tenants Council (ATC) has more than 20 years of experience in assisting tenants. Under the contract, ATC will provide services to at least 360 clients. The contract term will be from October 1, 2022, to September 30, 2023.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.