

City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 23-2067, Agenda Item #: 31.

6/8/2023

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance accepting Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance grant funds from the Texas Department of Emergency Management; and amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20220817-004) to appropriate funding in the amount of \$297,110 for the following departments: Development Services Department, Building Services Department, Austin Fire Department and the Austin Police Department for COVID-19 disaster response expenditure reimbursement.

Lead Department

Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$297,110 is available from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) via the Texas Department of Emergency Management. A local funding match is not required. Fiscal Note Attached.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

On March 6, 2020, a Declaration of Local Disaster was issued by Mayor Adler putting into motion measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. On March 13, 2020, Governor Abbott issued a Declaration of State of Disaster to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and lessen the spread of COVID-19.

COVID-19 created an immediate threat to the health and safety of the general public requiring emergency response and protective measures. The City provided "force account labor," as defined by the Internal Revenue Service, jurisdiction wide to help assist and aid the response to the threat of COVID-19. This grant is a FEMA Public Assistance grant award which reimburses City departments for expenses incurred for carrying out COVID-19 public health responses from March 1, 2020 to November 21, 2020.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, the departments' need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.

Department	FEMA Public Assistance
Development Services	\$15,308
Building Services	\$328
Fire	\$38,429
Police	\$243,045

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Total:	\$297,110