



City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 24-4355, **Agenda Item #:** 3.

4/18/2024

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance accepting Federal Emergency Management Public Assistance grant funds from the Texas Department of Emergency Management and amending the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20230816-008) to appropriate funding in the amount of \$28,334 for Winter Storm Mara expenses.

Lead Department

Austin Resource Recovery

Fiscal Note

Funding the amount of \$28,334 is available from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) via the Texas Department of Emergency Management. A City match of 25% is required and available in the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Operating Budget of Austin Resource Recovery.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

On January 31, 2023, through February 3, 2023, an ice storm covered the City, bringing freezing temperatures, sleet, and icy conditions. The unprecedented ice accumulation resulted in road closures, extensive tree damage, broken power poles, and widespread power outages. The weather system was named Winter Storm Mara. On February 3, 2023, Mayor Kirk Watson and Travis County Judge Andy Brown signed local disaster declarations. On April 22, 2023, President Joe Biden partially approved the request from the State of Texas for a Major Disaster Declaration for Texas counties impacted by the effects of ice conditions and winter weather.

The City responded to Winter Storm Mara by providing various emergency services for residents including the pickup and disposal of unprecedented quantities of storm debris, primarily downed trees and broken limbs and branches.

The City enacted emergency protective measures, and Austin Resource Recovery utilized force account labor and overtime to activate the Emergency Operations Center to provide emergency response activities (communication, coordination, safety meetings, inspections) citywide. FEMA Public Assistance grant awards reimburse the City for expenses incurred for carrying out emergency protective measures from the Winter Storm Mara response during the incident period of January 30, 2023 through February 2, 2023.

Austin Resource Recovery will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently expended on this grant.

Project #: 126	Federal Award Date	Total Subgrant Amount	Federal Cost Share Percentage	Federal Funds Obligated	Local Cost Share Percentage	Local Cost Share Amount
Winter Storm Mara	02/22/2024	\$28,333.85	75.00%	\$21,250.39	25.00%	\$7,083.46