

AGENDA



Thursday, September 24, 2009

**Health and Human Services
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 40**

Subject: Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$3,062,820 in grant funds from the U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND RAPID RE-HOUSING PROGRAM (HPRP), and amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Health and Human Services Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund of Ordinance No. 20080908-002 to appropriate \$3,062,820 homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing services.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program-ARRA Funds. The grant period is July 15, 2009 through July 15, 2012. No City match is required.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Vince Cobalis, Asst. Director, Human Services, 972-5011; Susan Gehring, Community Based Resources Manager, 972-5026; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Public Health and Human Services Subcommittee.

Prior Council Action: May 14, 2009 - Council approved the Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan .

The Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP), as authorized under Title XII of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), provides financial assistance and services to prevent individuals and families in danger of becoming homeless and help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized.

The City has been awarded \$3,062,820 in direct funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP).

The HPRP has three primary goals: (1) Prevention: Prevent people from becoming homeless (HPRP Homelessness Prevention), (2) Diversion: Intervene when people enter shelters and divert them into housing (HPRP Homeless Assistance), and (3) Rapid Re-Housing: Move people who become homeless into permanent housing as quickly as possible (HPRP Homeless Assistance)

The recommended program design expands the capacity and reach of the City's existing homeless prevention and rapid re-housing programs, including broadening outreach to the school system, the faith communities and the community at large for households experiencing impacts of the recession. The program includes funding for administrative expenses and data management. HHSD will expend the majority of these funds in two years from the sub-grantee obligation date of September 2009. Legislation allows up to three years, but there are penalties for failure to expend in a timely manner.

City staff have been working with Austin Independent School District (AISD) on the priorities identified by the Joint Subcommittee of the City, County and AISD. One of these priorities was student mobility. This

item contributes to the current work of outreaching to those students whose families are in danger of becoming homeless.

Statement Required by Corporate Budget Office: All department grant application requests are reviewed by the Budget Office prior to submission to ensure that the grant minimizes the financial impact to the City.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Related Goals – Promotion/Prevention/Protection: Social Services Promote and foster increased self-sufficiency, healthy behaviors and lifestyle among targeted populations.

Performance measures required by Housing and Urban development for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program

Outputs:

Total number of persons served in the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP Homelessness Prevention and HPRP Homeless Assistance.) 2,000

Total number of households served in the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP Homelessness Prevention and HPRP Homeless Assistance.) 800

Outcomes:

Homelessness Prevention: Percent of unduplicated persons at risk of homelessness who have maintained housing as a result of receiving HPRP Homelessness Prevention services. 85%

Homeless Assistance: Percent of unduplicated homeless persons who become housed as a result of receiving HPRP Homeless Assistance services. 75%