



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-1940, **Agenda Item #:** 74.

4/23/2020

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment 7 with Foundation Communities in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 in one-time emergency funding to provide outreach and tax assistance services to community members seeking CARES Act tax relief, for a new total agreement amount of \$928,008.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$250,000 is included in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Public Health Department's Operating Budget

Prior Council Action:

April 9, 2020 - Council approved Resolution No. 20200409-33 to direct funding to expand tax preparation and direct deposit assistance, including outreach efforts to targeted low-income communities, and return to City Council for approval or ratification of needed contractual agreements by the April 23, 2020, Council meeting.

November 20, 2014 - Council approved execution of a 37-month agreement with Foundation Communities, Community Tax Centers, with three 12-month extension options for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$4,332,000, on a 6-0 vote with Council Member Tovo recusing herself from contracts associated with Theater Action Project/Creative Action.

For More Information:

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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

N/A.

Additional Backup Information:

Approval of this item will authorize Austin Public Health to negotiate and execute Amendment 7 with Foundation Communities in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 in one-time emergency funding to provide outreach and tax assistance services to community members seeking CARES Act tax relief, for a new total agreement amount of \$928,008. These funds will allow Foundation Communities to ramp up operations at their Prosper Centers to provide services to the low-income community who need tax preparation assistance.

Execution of this agreement is a component of the City's response to the current public health emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic. This agreement will ensure the continued provision of tax services to Austin's most vulnerable population and citizens in need of quarantine.

April 9, 2020, Council approved Resolution No. 20200409-33 to direct funding to expand tax preparation and direct deposit assistance, including outreach efforts to targeted low-income communities, and return to City

Council for approval or ratification of needed contractual agreements by the April 23, 2020, Council meeting.
Amendment 6 exercised extension Option 2 for the term of October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020.
Amendment 5 exercised extension Option 1 for the term of October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.
Amendment 4 added \$3,355 to the Agreement and modified exhibits.
Amendment 3 added \$6,034 to the Agreement and modified exhibits.
Amendment 2 added \$22,275 to the Agreement and modified exhibits.
Amendment 1 modified the Work Statement.

This social services agreement with Foundation Communities, Community Tax Centers was awarded through the 2014 Health and Human Services Department Self-Sufficiency Request for Applications (also known as an RFA), with services beginning on September 1, 2015 for an initial 37-month period in the amount of \$371,250, with three 12-month extension options in the amount of \$123,750 per extension option for a total agreement amount of \$742,500.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.