File #: 20-2107, Agenda Item #: 22.  5/21/2020

Posting Language
Authorize the ratification of an agreement with Workers Defense Project, Inc. to provide direct financial assistance to Austin/Travis County residents impacted by COVID-19 in an amount not to exceed $400,000 for the term May 11, 2020 through September 30, 2020.

Lead Department
Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note
Funding in the amount of $400,000 is included in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund for Relief in a State of Emergency Fund to support COVID-19 emergency relief.

Prior Council Action:
April 9, 2020 - Council approved Resolution No. 20200409-081 to appropriate an amount not to exceed $15,000,000 for the Relief in a State of Emergency Fund to support COVID-19 emergency relief, with an 11-0 vote on the virtual dais.

For More Information:
Stephanie Hayden, Director, 512-972-5010; Adrienne Sturrup, Assistant Director, 512-972-5167; Akeshia Johnson-Smothers, Interim Social Services Policy Manager, 512-972-5567; Lucy Thompson, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5045.

Additional Backup Information:
This action will authorize the ratification of an agreement with Workers Defense Project, Inc. to provide direct financial assistance to Austin/Travis County residents impacted by COVID-19. The term for this agreement is May 11, 2020 through September 30, 2020 in an amount not to exceed $400,000 for a total contract amount of $400,000, with no extension options.

On April 9, 2020, City Council approved an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund (Ordinance No. 20190910-001) to appropriate an amount not to exceed $15,000,000 for the Relief in a State of Emergency (RISE) Fund to support COVID-19 emergency relief. On the same day, City Council approved Resolution No. 20200409-081, which authorized the City Manager to negotiate and execute new emergency contracts funded from the RISE Fund to offer immediate support-services and direct financial assistance to residents impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and related economic crisis.

Workers Defense Project will use the direct financial assistance to continue serving people of color, immigrant communities, historically marginalized individuals, and low-wage workers.

Strategic Outcome(s):
Economic Opportunity and Affordability.