



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-3129, **Agenda Item #:** 103.

9/17/2020

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Austin Area Urban League for the provision of rental assistance to low-income Austin/Travis County residents affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to prevent homelessness, in an amount not to exceed \$1,208,178 for a 10-month term beginning September 1, 2020.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$1,208,178 is available from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Community Services Block Grant

For More Information:

Stephanie Hayden, Director, (512) 972-5010; Donna Sundstrom, Assistant Director Community Services, (512) 972-5038; Angel Zambrano, Manager, Neighborhood Services Unit (512) 972-6750; Lucy Thompson, Agenda Coordinator, (512) 972-5045.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

July 29, 2020 - Council approved an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20190910-001) to accept and appropriate an additional \$20,543 in CARES ACT grant funds from the Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs, Community Services Block Grant for the delivery of basic needs, case management, employment support, rent and utility assistance, and preventive health services to low-income residents affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, on an 11-0 vote.

May 21, 2020 - Council approved an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20190910-001) to accept and appropriate \$1,477,193 CARES Act grant funds from the Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs, Community Services Block Grant for the delivery of basic needs, case management, employment support, rent & utility assistance and preventive health services to low-income residents affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, on an 11-0 vote.

Additional Backup Information:

The City receives an annual formula-based Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). The CSBG grant provides administrative support to a network of local Community Action Agencies that provide services to low-income residents. The City is considered the "Community Action Agency" for Travis County. The grant program provides funding for the delivery of basic needs, case management, preventive health and employment support services to low-income residents through the City's six neighborhood centers and three field offices.

The goal of the grant is to assist persons affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This is a non-renewable grant

from March 27, 2020 to July 31, 2021. The funds are stipulated to be used to assist Austin/Travis County low-income residents affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and funding is limited to the dates listed unless an extension is requested/necessary to expend all these funds.

This Council item is time sensitive to ensure contracts can be executed for services to persons affected by the COVID-19 pandemic throughout 2020-2021.

The approved Fiscal Year 2019-2020 TDHCA Budget for these CARES ACT CSBG funds is as follows:

Sub-recipient	FY 2019-2020 Annual Plan Allocations
Austin Area Urban League	\$1,087,359.35
Administration	\$120,817.71

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.