



Recommendation for Action

File #: 20-3794, **Agenda Item #:** 2.

1/27/2021

Posting Language

Ratify an agreement with Project Transitions, Inc. to fund abatement of asbestos-containing materials at the property located at 5606 Roosevelt Avenue, Austin, Texas 78756, in the amount of \$100,000.

Lead Department

Austin Resource Recovery

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$100,000 is available from a grant received from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Prior Council Action:

On September 14, 2016, Council approved Ordinance No. 20160914-001 adopting the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Austin Resource Recovery Department Operating Budget and accepting the 2016 EPA Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant.

For More Information:

Ken Snipes, Director, Austin Resource Recovery, 512-974-1926; Victoria Rieger, Finance Division Manager, 512-974-1960; Brent Paige, Financial Manager, 512-974-7759.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

January 13, 2021- Recommend unanimously by the Zero Waste Advisory Commission on a 9-0 vote.

Additional Backup Information:

The Austin Brownfields Revitalization Office (ABRO), a division of Austin Resource Recovery (ARR), provides environmental services to entities planning to redevelop or revitalize a property. In 2016, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded a grant to the City of Austin to assist in enhancing the Brownfields Program in cleanup of environmental contamination and facilitating property redevelopment in the city of Austin in accordance with the Brownfields Revitalization Act of 2002 and EPA Brownfields National Guidance.

Project Transitions is a nonprofit dedicated to serving people with HIV and AIDS by providing supportive living, housing, recuperative care, and hospice in compassionate and caring environments. They manage multiple properties in Austin that support low-income, at-risk populations. Roosevelt Gardens is a transitional housing community in northwest Austin. As part of its plans to redevelop and expand Roosevelt Gardens, Project Transitions performed an environmental assessment and confirmed that asbestos was present in their building and required remediation. Project Transitions plans to demolish the existing building after asbestos abatement, construct a new facility, and move the tenants back into the new and improved Roosevelt Gardens property within one year. This project will provide improved units to current residents and add new units of affordable housing to impact more families.

ABRO provided a cleanup sub-grant to reimburse eligible costs of the asbestos removal, which is required by state regulations prior to demolition of the building. Due to timing of the required reimbursement, ARR needed

to make payment prior to Council approval in order to comply with terms of the grant agreement. Project Transitions used the grant funds solely for the asbestos abatement activities at the site as outlined within the agreement.

This project provides affordable housing for very low-income residents, helps to meet the City's affordable housing goals, and provides a safe and healthy environment by safely removing hazardous materials.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment