



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-1028, **Agenda Item #:** 40.

1/27/2021

Posting Language

Ratify Amendment No. 2 to an agreement with Sysco Central Texas, Inc. for the provision of shelf-stable food, drinking water, and hygiene items for people experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic to increase funding in an amount not to exceed \$2,520,000 and extend the term through September 10, 2021, for a revised total agreement amount not to exceed \$3,381,000.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$2,520,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-21 General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund operating budget.

Prior Council Action:

August 27, 2020 - Council approved ratification of an agreement with Sysco Central Texas, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$516,600 for an initial three-month term beginning August 1, 2020, with two one-month extension options each in an amount not to exceed \$172,200, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$861,000, on an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

Stephanie Hayden, Director, 512-972-5010; Adrienne Sturup, Assistant Director, Health Equity and Community Engagement Division, 512-972-5167; Akeshia Johnson Smothers, Interim Social Services Policy Manager, 512-972-5567; Estella Kirscht, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5039.

Additional Backup Information:

Approval of this item will ratify Amendment No. 2 to an agreement with Sysco Central Texas, Inc. that will increase funding in an amount not to exceed of \$2,520,000 and extend the term through September 10, 2021, for a revised total contract amount not to exceed \$3,381,000.

Amendment No. 1 added two one-month extension options that extended the term through December 31, 2020.

The original term of the agreement with Sysco Central Texas, Inc. provided shelf-stable food, drinking water, and hygiene items for people experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic in an amount not to exceed \$516,600 for an initial three month term beginning August 1, 2020, with two one-month extension options each in an amount not to exceed \$172,200, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$861,000

The Eating Apart Together (EAT) Initiative was created as part of the Homelessness Task Force of the Austin/Travis County Emergency Operations Center as an emergency response to COVID-19. EAT is a partnership between public and private organizations developed to ensure individuals experiencing homelessness have ongoing access to food, water, and hygiene items when normal service delivery providers have either ceased operations or scaled back due to concerns about the spread of COVID19. Providing basic needs, such as nutrition, hydration and hygiene resources promotes health and reduces mobility, which are

important components of the strategy to prevent and mitigate the spread of disease, such as COVID-19. The priority population for this project is unsheltered persons in Austin/Travis County. Shelf-stable food, water, and hygiene items are provided by City staff and community partners who conduct outreach to unsheltered persons on a weekly basis. Persons experiencing homelessness have been identified as high-risk for severe complications and hospitalization if they are exposed to or contract COVID-19. EAT helps these individuals maintain a basic level of nutrition and provides necessary hygiene items to help reduce the need for emergency medical care or hospitalization during the pandemic.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.