



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-1182, **Agenda Item #:** 36.

2/4/2021

Posting Language

Ratify Amendment No. 2 with Sysco Central Texas, Inc. to provide shelf-stable food, drinking water, and hygiene items for people experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic in an amount not to exceed \$765,000, and extending the agreement through April 30, 2021, for an updated total contract amount not to exceed \$1,626,000.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$765,000 is available in the FY 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; Lucy Thompson.

Additional Backup Information:

Approval of this item will ratify Amendment No. 2 with Sysco Central Texas, Inc. adding an amount not to exceed of \$765,000, and extending the agreement through April 30, 2021, for an updated total contract amount not to exceed \$1,626,000.

Amendment No. 1 added extension Option 1 and Option 2 for the extended term through December 31, 2020.

The original term of this contract 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. 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.