



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-1843, **Agenda Item #:** 16.

5/20/2021

Posting Language

Authorize award, negotiation, and execution of an agreement with The SAFE Alliance to manage the City-owned domestic violence shelter and provide supportive services, housing assistance, and direct client assistance in an amount not exceed \$2,000,000 in ongoing funding and \$100,000 in one-time funding, for the term of May 20, 2021 through September 30, 2022, with three 12-month extension options each in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$8,100,000.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$2,100,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Austin Public Health Operating Budget. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

This contract is the result of a competitive request for applications released on December 18, 2020 titled "Request for Applications #003 Domestic Violence Shelter 2021 NPS". The request sought qualified domestic violence service providers with at least two years of experience providing robust and holistic services to survivors of domestic violence, operating a congregate facility (defined as a facility serving more than five unrelated persons) to persons who have experienced domestic violence, and demonstrate participation in domestic violence/family violence community planning on the local and/or state level.

The City received one complete application, which was submitted by The SAFE Alliance, and it was first reviewed to determine that it met the social services threshold for fiscal and administrative capacity. The application was then evaluated by a panel of City employees with extensive expertise in domestic violence, case management, racial equity, homeless services, and shelter operations, as well as social service contract management.

The City will be converting an existing hotel property, currently serving as a Protection Lodge for homeless individuals at risk for COVID-19. Staff from the Public Works Department are responsible for the contracting for the building's renovation into the new domestic violence shelter. The timeline for the renovations may take 18-24 months after the City engages a contractor. Most likely, the contractor will complete renovations as the new domestic violence shelter operator starts administering shelter services, with reduced capacity during renovation.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.