



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-1985, **Agenda Item #:** 27.

6/3/2021

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to accept and appropriate \$145,000 in additional grant funds from Texas Department of State Health Services for the Texas Tobacco Prevention and Control Grant, Year One.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available from the Texas Department of State Health Services. The grant period is being extended from October 1, 2020 to April 28, 2022. No City match is required. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

February 4, 2021 - Council authorized negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with University of Texas at Austin to conduct a tobacco-focused community health needs assessment and evaluation to reduce tobacco disparities among LGBTQ communities in fulfillment of the DSHS tobacco grant, on an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

Tobacco use remains the leading preventable cause of death in Travis County. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) communities are disproportionately affected by tobacco use. One in five LGBTQ individuals use tobacco and LGBTQ individuals are five times less likely to call a smoking cessation quit line. The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has allocated funds to Austin Public Health (APH) from a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to reduce tobacco related health disparities among LGBTQ communities. The City was awarded \$217,000 in Fiscal Year 2020-2021 for year one of the grant. DSHS has requested to extend the contract time-period of Year One from October 1, 2020 to April 28, 2022 and increased funding in the amount of \$145,000, for a total grant award of \$362,000.

This project supports Strategic Direction 2023 Health and Environment Strategy #1: Promote healthy living and well-being with a particular focus on areas and communities with high rates of chronic disease and high-risk behaviors who lack access to services.

This project is also aligned with APH Strategic Direction Goal #2: Prevent and control chronic disease and risk factors.

Goal statements and associated milestones have been approved by DSHS and include the following strategies to reduce tobacco disparities among LGBTQ communities:

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- 1) Convene at least two meetings of an LGBTQ tobacco prevention and control coalition.
 - 2) Conduct and update as needed an environmental scan of LGBTQ community resources available and potential community partners in the service area, including decision makers and other community influencers.
 - 3) Conduct a qualitative evaluation (e.g. focus group) to assess knowledge, beliefs, attitudes, and values of LGBTQ communities in the Greater Austin Area related to use of conventional and emerging tobacco products.
 - 4) Ensure that ten percent of funding from this contract will be allocated for evaluation activities (e.g. focus group, readiness assessment).
 - 5) Conduct an LGBTQ-inclusive Community Health Needs Assessment if one has not been conducted within the last five years.
 - 6) Participate in at least two LGBTQ community events in Year One by exhibiting or promoting Texas Tobacco Quitline resources.
 - 7) Meet, at least once, with the decision makers and planning committees for the two LGBTQ community events before August 31, 2021.
 - 8) Participate in at least one LGBTQ community event by April 28, 2022.
 - 9) Conduct an additional readiness assessment by March 1, 2022 with DSHS to identify barriers to success.
 - 10) Develop detailed work plans to affect culturally appropriate policy, systems, and environmental changes to improve health equity and reduce tobacco use among LGBTQ communities.
 - 11) Participate in a consortium organized by DSHS Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch staff to update the statewide five-year strategic plan to include strategies that will specifically address tobacco use among LGBTQ communities based on input from the community health needs assessment (also known as CHNA) and focus group evaluations.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, Austin Public Health Department's need for continued funding will be evaluated and may be denied.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.