



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-2972, **Agenda Item #:** 22.

9/30/2021

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a one-year contract with Austin Tenants' Council to fund and administer the Renters Rights Assistance Program for community education and information about tenant protection laws in an amount not to exceed \$290,620.

Lead Department

Housing and Planning Department

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Operating Budget of the Housing and Planning Department. Funding is contingent on the release of Fiscal Year 2021 federal funds from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Community Development Block Grant. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information:

Rosie Truelove, Director, Housing and Planning Department (HPD), 512-974-3064; or Nefertitti Jackmon, Displacement Prevention Officer, HPD, 512-974-3196.

Additional Backup Information:

The Renters Rights Assistance Program provides tenants residing within Austin the following services: 1) facilitating mediation services between landlords and low- to moderate-income tenants to complete health and safety related repairs in rental units, which will help maintain reasonable habitability standards; 2) providing direct counseling and technical assistance to low-income renters regarding tenant/landlord issues; and 3) identifying fair housing complaints that can be investigated and may assist in resolving, reducing, or minimizing discriminatory housing practices.

Austin Tenants' Council (ATC) has more than 20 years of experience assisting tenants. Under the contract, ATC will provide services to at least 360 clients. The contract term will be from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022.

HPD designates ATC as a subrecipient for the Renters Rights Assistance Program contract for fiscal year 2021-2022 because of their more than 20 years of experience.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.