



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-2816, **Agenda Item #:** 56.

9/30/2021

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20210811-001) to accept and appropriate \$648,271 in additional grant funds from the Texas Department of State Health Services to support the COVID-19 Epidemiology and Lab Capacity Grant.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$648,271 is available from the Texas Department of State Health Services for the COVID-19 Epidemiology and Lab Capacity Grant. The grant period extends from August 1, 2020 through July 31, 2023. A City funding match is not required. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

July 29, 2020 - Council approved Ordinance No. 20200729-046 amending the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund to accept and appropriate \$518,617 in grant funds from the Texas Department of Health and Human Services to support the Coronavirus 2019 epidemiology response, on a 10-0 vote with Mayor Adler off the dais.

For More Information:

Adrienne Sturup Austin Public Health, Acting Director 512-972-5167; Janet Pichette, Chief Epidemiologist, Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness (EPHP) Division, 512-972-5486; Jeff Taylor, Manager, Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance, EPHP 512-972-5886; Ruth Dalrymple, Agenda Coordinator, 512-972-5024.

Additional Backup Information:

This action will authorize Austin Public Health to accept and appropriate \$648,271 in additional grant funds and expand the contract period through July 31, 2023.

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is allocating \$648,271 in additional grant funds to perform required and allowable epidemiology and lab capacity and disease surveillance activities in support of the COVID-19 response. Required activities in support of the expansion in funding include:

- A. Enhance Laboratory, Surveillance, Informatics and other Workforce Capacity.
- B. Strengthen Laboratory Testing.
- C. Improve Surveillance and Reporting Health Data.
- D. Use Laboratory Data to Enhance Investigation, Response, and Prevention.

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.