



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-2028, Agenda Item #: 50.

6/9/2022

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with the Sustainable Food Center to provide food access services under the Nutritious Food Incentive Program for an initial 12-month term beginning July 1, 2022 with one 12-month extension option, each in an amount not to exceed \$100,000, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$200,000.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$100,000 is available from the U.S. Department of Treasury, American Rescue Plan Act. Funding for the remaining term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

This action will authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement with Sustainable Food Center to provide food access services under the Nutritious Food Incentive Program that respond to the economic and public health impacts of COVID-19 related to household food insecurity.

This agreement was awarded as part of a solicitation process. Austin Public Health Department's (APH) request for proposals 2022-002 American Rescue Plan Act Food Access was released on February 10, 2022 and applications were due March 23, 2022. An optional pre-bid meeting took place on February 17, 2022.

There were two proposals submitted for the Nutritious Food Incentive Program services.

The request for proposals process is used to solicit social services for the Austin Public Health Department and is exempt from state purchasing laws. However, the purchasing process has been reviewed by the purchasing office and APH's leadership, incorporates most state laws, adheres to principles of fairness and transparency, and responsibly addresses the needs of the community.

The application evaluation process used set criteria to uniformly review all applicants evaluated by a separate and independent panel. A review panel comprised of individuals with education and expertise in the issue-area rated each application. Evaluators agreed upon strengths and weaknesses of each application, and each received a resultant score based on this process. The criteria for evaluation included fiscal and administrative capacity; experience and cultural competence/racial equity; program design and performance metrics; data-informed program management; and cost effectiveness.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health and Environment.