



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-2199, Agenda Item #: 41.

6/16/2022

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Austin Public Health Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20210811-001) authorizing nine full-time equivalent grant-funded positions for the Reach In, Reach Out Program.

Lead Department

Austin Public Health.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$675,318 is available from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The grant period is June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2023. A City funding match is not required. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

June 10, 2021- Council approved 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 \$4,087,502 in grant funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, for the delivery of COVID-19 Vaccine Outreach, on an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

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Additional Backup Information:

In the Spring of 2021, the Centers for Disease Control released Notice of Funding Opportunity number CDC- RFA-OT21-2103, entitled National Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities Among Populations at High-Risk and Underserved, Including Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations and Rural Communities. The Austin Public Health Department applied and was awarded \$4,087,502 for the program "Reach In, Reach Out and Vaccinate: Place-based Outreach & COVID-19 Vaccination for Populations of Focus in the Austin Area (Reach In, Reach Out)." Through this program, the Austin Public Health Department and partners will coordinate to improve the health and socioeconomic disparities in Austin for minority populations, particularly Black/African Americans and Hispanics/Latinos/Latinx, immigrants and refugees and other populations that lack access to health care, transportation, healthy foods, and other equitable determinants.

This action will authorize nine full-time equivalent grant-funded positions, three of which will convert long term grant-funded temporary positions to full-time grant-funded positions. These three positions include a Grant Program Manager, Public Health Planner II, and Public Health Social Services Funding Specialist, and provide overall grant management, planning and contract management, as well as community health worker vaccine outreach. The remaining six positions include one Public Health Program Supervisor, and five Community

Health Worker I's, which will be filled using a competitive process.

Converting these temporary employees to regular grant-funded full-time equivalents will allow the City to retain qualified staff for the duration of this two-year grant period. These positions are also included in the grant action plan with full funding provided for the contract term of June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2023.

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

Strategic Outcome(s):

Health & Environment, Economic Opportunity and Affordability.