

Exhibit A

Cities Addressing Fines and Fees Equitably CAFFE Initiative Sustainability Mini-Grant Fund

Fines and Fees Assistance Program Statement

The City of Dallas is using the assistance of the National League of Cities (NLC) invited Cities from the CAFFE Cohort to be part of its new Cities Addressing Fines and Fees Equitably CAFFE Initiative Sustainability Mini-Grant Fund. This additional program is a testament to the importance of the City role in addressing the adverse effects and harmful economic impact that debt can have on lower-income residents. The Office of Equity and Inclusion, in collaboration with key internal City of Dallas departments, offices, and stakeholders, will continue to use the CAFFE Initiative's assistance to address inequities in fines and fees without compromising public safety. This grant fund will assist in the continues work with eligible residents that have unpaid fines and fees on the spectrum of getting a fine and fee corrected, which include, those that have one violation or have accumulated multiple violations. These efforts address two of the main City Big Audacious Goal related to Justice and Government by informing the public, eliminating barriers, creating communication bridges, and creating tools of engagement.

Program Purpose: the CAFFE project seeks to increase racial equity and economic mobility for residents by helping cities mitigate the often-harmful impacts of fines and fees on residents' financial health. With support from and in collaboration with JPMorgan Chase Foundation, NLC's CAFFE Initiative Sustainability Mini-Grant Fund aspired to continue improving the financial stability of residents who are at risk of losing income and assets, and (re)entering the judicial system due to unpaid debt to city governments. Municipal leaders have seen the devastating economic impacts that court debt can have on low-income residents, particularly residents of color. Local governments historically have turned to municipal fines and fees to fill budget gaps, despite many residents' inability to pay these debts.

Grant Award and Use of Funds: CAFFE Initiative Sustainability Mini-Grant Fund provides the City grant funding in the amount of \$10,000 to assist residents who are at risk of losing income and assets, and at risk of (re)entering the judicial system due to unpaid debt due to residents' inability to pay these debts. Applicants are residents impacted by fines and fees and unable to pay due to loss of income or low income. Residents will be able to apply by using a registration link. A phone number will be provided and monitored by Office of Equity and Inclusion staff for those needing accommodations or language access. The office of Equity and Inclusion is working diligently to address potential disparities around fines and fees felt by the most vulnerable, and this is being done through collaboration with key internal departments, offices, and community stakeholders. This funding is an opportunity to leverage the collaborative model utilized with Dallas Animal Services and the

Office of Community Care to further institutionalize equitable practices around fines and fees at the City of Dallas. This funding will serve as an incentive for residents who participating in the CAFFE program who have received fines and fees; it will connect residents with available City services and programs to address fines and fees and support residents with additional and available City services to help begin to address root causes of vulnerability. Funds shall be used solely for the purpose and goals stated herein and in accordance with the budget submitted by the City and approved by NLC for activities and the mentioned term or before if runs out of funds. Allowable uses of funds include but are not limited to pay for fines and fees based on the residents demonstrated need, expenses associated with core personnel costs; support for data collection and analysis from an external partner (to be decided in partnership with NLCI); stakeholder engagement with community organizations, residents, and other partners; consultants for planning; incentives for resident engagement such as gift cards or food; costs associated with implementation of the program; and other uses as approved by NLCI.