WHEREAS, on September 22, 2021, the City Council authorized the final reading and adoption of the appropriation ordinance for the FY 2021-22 City of Dallas Operating, Capital, and Grant & Trust Budgets, which included the American Rescue Plan Act funds from the U.S. Department of Treasury for the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds by Resolution No. 21-1590; and

WHEREAS, on September 22, 2023, four proposals were submitted related to the distribution of in-home garden kits to provide residents with a recurring supply of fresh grown produce; and

WHEREAS, on February 28, 2024, the City Council authorized the transfer and reallocation of ARPA funds from the U.S. Department of Treasury for the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund to the ARPA Redevelopment multi-year fund to provide assistance with completing projects by Resolution No. 24-0315; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, making healthy food accessible to eligible households within the City became more urgent and the need for food distribution and home delivery of groceries persists; and

WHEREAS, the City desired to assist low-income households within the city to address high poverty rates through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds, and in-home garden kits provide households with a recurring supply of fresh grown produce and access to healthy food for eligible households of qualifying addresses within the city, allowing such residents to improve nutrition and lower food costs; and

WHEREAS, Bellcam Group, LLC submitted proposals in response to the RFP and was the most advantageous proposer; and

WHEREAS, on August 12, 2024, the Workforce, Education and Equity Committee was briefed by memorandum regarding this matter; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is in the best interest of the City of Dallas to reject the proposals that were received related to the distribution of in-home garden kits.

Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:

SECTION 1. That the City Manager is hereby authorized to reject all bids received for solicitation BGZ23-00022741 – Request for Proposals for Garden Box Kits.

SECTION 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so resolved.