# KECLIV

# City of Dallas

2021 JAN 11 PM 12: 59

CITY SECRETARY DALLAS, TEXAS 1500 Marilla Street Dallas, Texas 75201

Public Notice 2 1 00 2 8



POSTED CITY SECRETARY DALLAS, TX

# Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance

January 14, 2021 1:30 PM

The Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance meeting will be held by videoconference. The meeting will be broadcast live on Spectrum Cable Channel 16 and online at bit.ly/cityofdallastv.

The public may also listen to the meeting as an attendee at the following videoconference link: <a href="https://dallascityhall.webex.com/dallascityhall/onstage/g.php?MTID=eaad4b12bbe549009173c6340b2fb930a">https://dallascityhall.webex.com/dallascityhall/onstage/g.php?MTID=eaad4b12bbe549009173c6340b2fb930a</a>

# **2021 CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS**

COUNCIL COMMITTEE	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
Atkins (C), Blewett (VC), Gates, McGough, Narvaez,	Narvaez (C), West (VC), Atkins, Blackmon, Gates
Resendez, West	
GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL	HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SOLUTIONS
MANAGEMENT	Thomas (C), Mendelsohn (VC), Arnold, Blackmon,
Mendelsohn (C), Gates (VC), Bazaldua,	Kleinman, Resendez, West
McGough, Thomas	
PUBLIC SAFETY	QUALITY OF LIFE, ARTS, AND CULTURE
Gates (C), Kleinman (VC), Arnold, Bazaldua,	Medrano (C), Atkins (VC), Arnold, Blewett, Narvaez
Blewett, McGough, Medrano, Mendelsohn,	
Thomas	
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	WORKFORCE, EDUCATION, AND EQUITY
McGough (C), Medrano (VC), Atkins, Bazaldua,	Thomas (C), Resendez (VC), Blackmon, Kleinman,
Kleinman, Mendelsohn, West	Medrano
AD HOC JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE	AD HOC LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
McGough (C), Blewett, Mendelsohn, Narvaez, West	Johnson (C), Mendelsohn (VC), Atkins,
	Gates, McGough
AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19 RECOVERY	
AND ASSISTANCE	
Thomas (C), Atkins, Blewett, Gates,	

Mendelsohn, Narvaez, Resendez

(C) – Chair, (VC) – Vice Chair

#### Call to Order

#### **MINUTES**

1. 21-13 Approval of the December 17, 2020 Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** Minutes

## **BRIEFING ITEMS**

A. 21-14 COVID-19 Vaccine, Testing, and Data Updates

[Dr. Philip Huang, Director, Dallas County Health and Human Services; Dr. Timothy Bray, Director, Institute for Urban Policy Research, University of Texas at Dallas; Rocky Vaz, Director, Office of Emergency Management]

### **BRIEFING MEMOS**

B. <u>21-15</u> Update on Federal COVID-19 Relief Legislation

[Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director, Office of Government Affairs]

<u>Attachments:</u> <u>Memorandum</u>

C. 21-16 Update on Rental Assistance Programs

[Jessica Galleshaw, Director, Office of Community Care]

Attachments: Memorandum

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION NOTICE**

A closed executive session may be held if the discussion of any of the above agenda items concerns one of the following:

- 1. seeking the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, or any matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.071]
- 2. deliberating the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the city in negotiations with a third person. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.072]
- 3. deliberating a negotiated contract for a prospective gift or donation to the city if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the city in negotiations with a third person. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.073]
- 4. deliberating the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee unless the officer or employee who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public hearing. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.074]
- 5. deliberating the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices. [Tex. Govt. Code §551.076]
- discussing or deliberating commercial or financial information that the city has received from a business prospect that the city seeks to have locate, stay or expand in or near the city and with which the city is conducting economic development negotiations; or deliberating the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect. [Tex Govt. Code §551.087]
- 7. deliberating security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology, network security information, or the deployment or specific occasions for implementations of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices. [Tex Govt. Code §551.089]



# Agenda Information Sheet

Approval of the December 17, 2020 Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance Meeting Minutes

# Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance Meeting Record

The Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance meetings are recorded. Agenda materials are available online at <a href="www.dallascityhall.com">www.dallascityhall.com</a>. Recordings may be reviewed online at <a href="https://dallastx.swagit.com/ad-hoc-committees">https://dallastx.swagit.com/ad-hoc-committees</a>.

Note: This meeting was conducted via videoconference to comply with a social distancing mandate during a declared state of disaster.

Meeting Date: December 17, 2020 Convened: 1:35 p.m. Adjourned: 3:23 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:** 

Casey Thomas, Chair Tennell Atkins David Blewett Jennifer S. Gates Cara Mendelsohn Jaime Resendez Omar Narvaez **Committee Members Absent:** 

N/A

**Other Council Members Present:** 

DMPT Adam McGough

## <u>AGENDA</u>

CALL TO ORDER (1:35 p.m.)

1. Approval of the December 3, 2020 Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance Meeting Minutes

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** A motion was made to approve the minutes for the December 3, 2020 Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance meeting. The motion passed.

Motion made by: CM David Blewett Motion seconded by: CM Omar Narvaez

#### **BRIEFING ITEMS WITHOUT ACTION**

#### 2. COVID-19 Testing and Data Update

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Phil Huang, Director, Dallas County Health and Human Services; Dr. Timothy Bray, Director, Institute for Urban Policy Research, University of Texas at Dallas

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): The region's health experts gave updates on COVID-19 testing and data efforts in the City of Dallas and Dallas County. Ad Hoc Committee members discussed and asked questions about hospitalization and fatality, the  $R_0$  value in Dallas (i.e. how contagious the virus is), COVID-19 advisories around holiday gatherings, how school-aged children are being impacted, hospital bed capacity, working with the Latinx community for equitable vaccine distribution, working with Dallas Independent School District to get teachers vaccinated, educating the public on the vaccine, building trust among communities of color during the vaccination process, what the city can do to market vaccine distribution, and more. CM Atkins requested staff to develop a communication plan and messaging related to the vaccine for the City Council members. Information only.

3. City of Dallas' Economic Recovery in the Wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Susan McElroy, Associate Professor of Economics, University of Texas at Dallas **Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Dr. McElroy discussed how Dallas' economy was doing before the COVID-19 pandemic, current unemployment trends, the economic resilience of Dallas, and issues related to education, mental health, and social determinants of health. Ad Hoc Committee members asked about recommendations to close the education gap, frameworks for coalition building, and more. Information only.

#### **BRIEFING MEMORANDUM WITH ACTION**

4. Consider a Proposed Amendment to Article XI, "Credit Access Businesses," of Chapter 50, "Consumer Affairs," of the Dallas City Code

Presenter(s): Carl Simpson, Director, Code Compliance Services

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** There was no discussion on this item. A motion was made to recommend the amendment to the City Council for approval. The motion passed.

Motion made by: CM Cara Mendelsohn Motion seconded by: CM David Blewett

#### **BRIEFING MEMORANDUM WITHOUT ACTION**

### 5. Update on COVID-19 Response Funding

ADJOURN (3:23 p.m.)

**Recovery and Assistance** 

**Presenter(s):** Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer, City Manager's Office; Jack Ireland, Director, Office of Budget and Management Services

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): Director Ireland stated that the City's COVID-19 Funding Dashboard on the Financial Transparency website (<a href="http://financialtransparency.dallascityhall.com/">http://financialtransparency.dallascityhall.com/</a>) gets updated every Monday and \$135 million of Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) have been spent as of December 14, 2020. The City is committed to spending all CRF by December 30, 2020. He also provided an update on the status of the Congressional legislative relief package. Chair Thomas requested the Ad Hoc Committee members to share their budget priorities for the new streams of funding the City may receive from the federal government. CM Mendelsohn and CM Blewett recommended that any new funds for COVID-19 response and recovery be spent on food security and housing. Information only.

6. Update on CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund Social Services Programs

Presenter(s): Jessica Galleshaw, Director, Office of Community Care

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): There was no discussion on this item. Information only.

7. Update on CDBG and ESG Programming Dollars for Housing Stability

Presenter(s): Jessica Galleshaw, Director, Office of Community Care

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): There was no discussion on this item. Information only.

8. Monitoring and Enforcement of Current City Emergency Regulations and Executive and County Orders Presenter(s): Carl Simpson, Director, Code Compliance Services

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): Ad Hoc Committee members asked Director Simpson what type of citations are being issued, who are receiving citations, and what steps are being taken to educate businesses and residents on the emergency regulations and orders. Information only.

**Recovery and Assistance** 

APPROVED BY:	ATTESTED BY:
Casey Thomas, Chair Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19	Sommer Iqbal, Coordinator Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19



# Agenda Information Sheet

File #: 21-14 Item #: A.

COVID-19 Vaccine, Testing, and Data Updates

[Dr. Philip Huang, Director, Dallas County Health and Human Services; Dr. Timothy Bray, Director, Institute for Urban Policy Research, University of Texas at Dallas; Rocky Vaz, Director, Office of Emergency Management]



# Agenda Information Sheet

File #: 21-15 Item #: B.

Update on Federal COVID-19 Relief Legislation [Brett Wilkinson, Managing Director, Office of Government Affairs]

# Memorandum



**DATE January 14, 2021** 

TO Members of the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance

SUBJECT Update on COVID-19 Federal Relief Legislation

After months of negotiation, the House and Senate late last month approved a \$900 billion pandemic relief bill. President Trump signed the bill into law on December 27, 2020.

Congress enacted the pandemic relief measure as part of a 5,593-page bill that essentially combines a year of legislating into one massive year-end package. The package (HR 133), includes the \$900 billion pandemic relief measure, but also combines a wide array of other significant legislation, including the FY 2021 Omnibus Appropriations Act.

As expected, the pandemic relief measure does NOT include any direct, unencumbered assistance to states and local governments to deal with declining revenues brought on by COVID-19. However, this past weekend, President-elect Biden affirmed his commitment to quickly passing another pandemic relief bill and outlined his priorities, which include fiscal assistance to state and local governments.

The pandemic relief bill is nowhere near as extensive as the \$3 trillion "HEROES Act" approved by the House twice but not considered by the Senate. However, the pandemic relief measure and other portions of the bill include provisions that will provide direct funding to the City or are of interest to the City. They are all outlined below.

Additionally, management will brief the full City Council on the new pandemic relief legislation on February 3, 2021.

### **CRF Extension**

The Coronavirus Relief Fund from the CARES Act provided direct funds to all states and localities with populations over 500,000 for pandemic relief activities, including Dallas, with a spending deadline of December 30, 2020. The bill enacted last month provides no additional funds, nor does it expand the potential uses of the funds. It does, however, provide a one-year extension on obligation of the funds, through December 31, 2021. However, since the President signed the bill only three days before the original deadline, Dallas and, most local governments had already obligated their funds, with states accounting for most of the laggard grantees.

### <u>Small Business Assistance – Paycheck Protection Program</u>

One of the largest single pieces of the bill is \$285 billion for another round of the Small Business Administration (SBA) forgivable loan program known as the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). The measure tightens the definition of a small business to those with fewer than 300 employees that can demonstrate a 25 percent reduction in revenue since the start of the pandemic. In addition, the program recognizes the unique plight of restaurants by allowing them to receive up to 14 weeks of payroll, as opposed to 10 for all others, and to apply for amounts based on 3.5 times payroll, as opposed to 2.5 for others. It also includes language specifically allowing "destination marketing organizations," such as convention and visitors bureaus, to apply for a

SUBJECT

Update on COVID-19 Federal Relief Legislation

PPP loan. The measure also sets-aside PPP funds for businesses with less than 10 employees, first-time borrowers, and lenders in minority and low-income communities.

Last week, SBA issued rules and guidance for the additional \$285 billion provided for PPP loans, which, as in previous rounds, can be converted to grants if loan recipients maintain payroll.

Please note that SBA intends to open the PPP loan portal as soon, maybe as soon as this week, so now is the time for small businesses, small non-profits, and lenders (especially CDFIs, community banks, small credit unions, and minority lending institutions) to start preparing for the program's launch.

Also, please note that in compliance with directives in the recently enacted pandemic relief act, SBA will take several steps to target PPP assistance to minority, underserved, veteran, and women-owned businesses, which critics argue were not fairly treated in the first round of PPP loans. Those steps are:

- Accepting loan applications only from community development financial institutions (CDFIs) for at least the first two days when the PPP loan portal reopens,
- Use the Lender Match system to reach out to small and underserved businesses and to small lenders that can aid traditionally underserved communities,
- Setting aside dedicated hours for SBA to assist the smallest PPP lenders, and
- Working with SBA partners to reach out to small lenders, CDFIs, and small and underserved businesses.

The pandemic relief act specifically sets aside portions of PPP loan funds for minority, underserved, veteran, and women-owned businesses as follows:

- \$15 billion for first- and second-draw PPP loans from CDFIs.
- \$15 billion for first- and second-draw PPP loans from banks and credit unions with consolidated assets of less than \$10 billion.
- \$35 billion for new first-draw PPP borrowers, and
- \$15 billion for first draw and \$25 billion for second-draw PPP loans for borrowers with 10 or fewer employees or for loans of less than \$250,000 to borrowers in low- and moderateincome neighborhoods.

# **Small Business Assistance - Save Our Stages Grants**

The bill includes \$15 billion for SBA grants of up to \$20 million to small live venue operators and promoters, theatrical producers, live performing arts organizations operators, museum operators, motion picture theater operators, and talent representatives that have experienced a revenue loss of 25 percent or more. The language is modeled on the bipartisan Save Our Stages Act introduced earlier this year by Senator Cornyn and Senator Amy Klobuchar.

The Save Our Stages provision gives priority to businesses with fewer than 50 employees and businesses that have experienced revenue loss greater than 70 percent. Eligible Save Our Stages grant uses include payroll, rent, utilities and personal protective equipment.

#### **Transportation**

The measure includes \$45 billion for various transportation entities:

• \$2 billion for airports and airport concessionaires to be distributed to airports, including Love Field and Dallas Executive Airport, using the Airport Improvement Program formula;

SUBJECT

Update on COVID-19 Federal Relief Legislation

- \$14 billion for public transit, to be distributed to transit agencies, including DART, through existing formulas;
- \$10 billion for state departments of transportation, apportioned using existing formulas;
- \$15 billion for airline industry payroll support;
- \$1 billion for airline contractors;
- \$2 billion for the private motor coach and school bus industries; and
- \$1 billion for Amtrak.

## **Rental Assistance & Housing**

There is \$25 billion for rental assistance, which will be allocated to all states and local governments with populations over 200,000, including Dallas, using a formula primarily based on population. As opposed to using existing programs at agencies such as HUD or HHS, the legislation uses the Treasury Department to distribute the funds, using the Coronavirus Relief Fund process from the CARES Act. Treasury must allocate the funds within 30 days of the bill becoming law. We submitted our certification to Treasury on January 11, ahead of the January 12 deadline. We expect to receive notification of our allocation on January 13, and the funds shortly thereafter.

Grantees must give priority to households with an income at or below 50 percent of area median income, with an individual who has been unemployed for 90 days or more or include someone who has not been able to work because of a public health order issued in response to the pandemic. Up to three months assistance may be provided.

The legislation also extends the CDC eviction moratorium by one month, through January 31, 2021. In addition to rental assistance, the funding may be used for utility assistance for qualifying households.

In addition, the tax extenders portion the broader bill includes a provision setting a 4 percent minimum rate for the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, which is designed to encourage development of affordable housing.

# HHS Low-Income Household Drinking Water and Wastewater Emergency Assistance Program

The funding for this program, \$638 million, is technically not part of the pandemic relief bill; it is emergency funding included in the regular FY 2021 appropriations bill for HHS. It is a completely new program, so HHS will have to come up with guidance and a mechanism for allocating the funds to the states. However, the legislation directs HHS to "as appropriate and to the extent practicable, use existing processes, procedures, policies, and systems in place to provide assistance to low-income households, including by using existing programs and program announcements, application and approval processes."

Staff is preparing a letter to send to HHS urging the quickest and most efficient allocation of these funds to water and wastewater utilities.

# **Child Care**

The bill provides \$10 billion through the Child Care Development Block Grant at HHS, which provides block grants to states for childcare activities. Grantees are encouraged to aid "front-line" workers in areas such as health care, emergency responders, sanitation workers, and farmworkers.

DATE January 14, 2021

SUBJECT Update on COVID-19 Federal Relief Legislation

The funds are likely to be distributed in similar fashion to the CARES Act. In Texas, the Department of Child Care and Early Learning of the Texas Workforce Commission administers these funds.

#### Stimulus/Unemployment

The measure provides one-time "stimulus" payments of \$600 to individuals earning up to \$75,000 per year, or \$600 for each adult to households earning up to \$150,000, plus \$600 per child. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said that those checks would start going out this month.

It also includes an additional \$300 per week in unemployment benefits through March 14, 2021 (with no prohibition on receiving both a stimulus check and the enhanced unemployment benefit).

The measure also extends, through March 14, 2021, the Pandemic Unemployment Insurance Program for people such as "gig workers" and self-employed workers who are generally not eligible for regular unemployment benefits. It also increases the number of weeks a person can receive Pandemic Unemployment Insurance Program from 39 weeks to 50 weeks.

# **Schools**

A total of \$82 billion is provided for various educational entities, to be distributed by formula in similar fashion to the CARES Act education funds, including:

- \$54.3 billion for K-12;
- \$22.7 billion for public and private non-profit higher education; and
- \$4 billion for the Governors Emergency Education Relief Fund.

#### **Broadband**

The bill includes \$7 billion for broadband activities. \$3.2 billion of the funding is reserved for a \$50 per month emergency benefit to low-income households administered through the FCC under the Lifeline Program.

It also includes \$285 million for broadband grants to historically black colleges and universities, tribal colleges and universities, and other minority-serving institutions, and \$250 million for FCC telehealth grants.

Most of the remainder of the funding is targeted to helping communications providers pay for the cost of removing equipment manufactured in China from their networks.

#### **Mental Health**

There is \$4.25 billion for mental health services in the bill, including \$1.65 billion each for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant and the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant, both of which provides block grant funding to states.

#### Food Security

The measure provides \$13 billion for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program (SNAP, formerly known as food stamps) that is designed to provide a 15 percent increase in benefits for those eligible.

In addition, the Emergency Food Assistance Program at the Department of Agriculture that assists food banks will receive \$400 million and the "Meals on Wheels" program will receive an additional \$175 million. The bill also expands SNAP eligibility to college students. The Texas Department of Agriculture administers these programs.

#### **Emergency Paid Leave**

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act enacted earlier this year mandated extended paid sick and family leave for many employers was NOT extended in the bill and expired at the end of last year. However, employers who choose to continue providing extended paid leave will be eligible for tax credits through March 21, 2021. Congress excluded state and local governments from eligibility for those tax credits.

The City of Dallas will extend paid leave eligibility for employees that may need time off to take care of themselves due to COVID-19 illness, 112 hours for uniform and up to 80 hours for nonuniformed employees utilizing existing departmental appropriations.

Again, management will provide an update on federal pandemic relief legislation at the February 3, 2021 City Council Briefing. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Brett Wilkinson, Director of the Office of Government Affairs, at 469/271-0399 or brett.wilkinson@dallascityhall.com.

Kimberly Bizor Tolbert

Chief of Staff to the City Manager

T.C. Broadnax, City Manager Chris Caso, City Attorney Mark Swann, City Auditor Bilierae Johnson, City Secretary Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion **Directors and Assistant Directors** 



# Agenda Information Sheet

File #: 21-16 Item #: C.

Update on Rental Assistance Programs [Jessica Galleshaw, Director, Office of Community Care]

# Memorandum



**DATE January 13, 2021** 

TO Honorable Members of the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance

## **SUBJECT Update on Rental Assistance Programs**

This memo is to provide an update on the newly authorized Emergency Rental Assistance funds, including an overview of services and initial plans for expenditures. Additional information about the broader Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 is provided in a separate memo.

On January 27, 2021, City Council will consider an item that will authorize acceptance of approximately \$40,000,00.00 as part of the newly established Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program. The item will also authorize implementation of the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) and Utility Assistance Program (Attachment A), and authorize multiple contracts with the Office of Community Care's Coronavirus Relief Funds Rental Assistance subrecipients to ensure continuation of service delivery in this critical time.

### ADDITIONAL CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE AND RELIEF

On December 27, 2020, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 was signed into law, which included an additional \$900 billion in stimulus funds for Coronavirus relief. Included in this stimulus, is an \$25 billion in rental assistance funding to be distributed to cities and counties via formula for rental and utility assistance, known as Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA).

In addition to funding for ERA, the bill also extended the Centers for Disease Control evictions moratorium through January 31, 2021. The City and its partners have seen a sustained need for rental and utility assistance support since the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. While demand for rental assistance has remained consistently high, several protections have been in place at various points in this pandemic to prevent evictions and loss of housing. As highlighted previously, the combined impact of County-level evictions moratoriums in the Spring and Summer, the City's eviction ordinance, and most recently a Centers for Disease Control-issued moratorium on evictions, have likely stemmed the tide of evictions; however, the upcoming expiration of this order creates concern that there will be high numbers of eviction filings in the coming months.

### **EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE (ERA) PROGRAM**

The ERA program will provide up to 12 months of rental and utility assistance to low-income clients, defined at 80% Area Median Income (AMI) and below, who have been directly and indirectly impacted by COVID-19, and will prioritize clients who are at 50% AMI or below, as outlined in Attachment A, for a term of December 31, 2020 through December 30, 2021. In order to minimize interruption in service delivery at this critical time and with the expiration of the evictions moratorium looming, the Office of Community Care is working to execute subrecipient agreements with the following providers, each of

SUBJECT

# **Update on Rental Assistance Programs**

which were prior partners through the Coronavirus Relief Fund Rental Assistance Program established in 2020. Funding levels for these agreements is based on the partner's CRF allocation proportionally extended to a 12-month program period and in conversation with the providers (CRF contracts were approximately 4 months). These subrecipient agreements will allow these providers, each of whom have existing clients and waitlists ready to be served, to continue service delivery with limited interruption from the expiration of their prior contracts and continue the delivery of rental and utility assistance services in the community.

The below list shows the subrecipients, the proposed initial ERA allocation for the December 31, 2020 to December 31, 2021 program period, and the organization's 2020 Coronavirus Relief Fund allocation for an approximately 4 month program period (September – December 2020).

- 1. Abounding Prosperity, Inc. \$1,080.000.00 (\$360,000.00 CRF allocation)
- 2. Dallas Leadership Foundation \$537,000.00 (\$179,000.00 CRF allocation)
- 3. First Presbyterian Church dba the Stewpot \$324,000.00 (\$108,000.00 CRF allocation)
- 4. International Rescue Committee \$268,500.00 (\$89,500.00 CRF allocation)
- 5. United Way of Metropolitan Dallas \$10,000,000.00 (\$2,763,500.00 (OCC) and \$1,150,000.00 (HOU) CRF allocation)

The execution of these contracts will enable service delivery to continue while staff continues work to develop a plan for utilization for the remaining ERA funding, which will be presented at a future meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance.

Thank you for your support in ensuring service delivery continues at this time of great need. If you have any questions regarding any of the above programs, please contact me or Office of Community Care Director, Jessica Galleshaw.

Kimberly Bizor Tolbert

C:

Chief of Staff to the City Manager

T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Bilierae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion
Directors and Assistant Directors

#### DRAFT

# Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) and Utility Assistance Program Program Statement

#### Description – Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) and Utility Assistance Program

The program targets residents of the City of Dallas who are low income to maintain their housing by providing rental and utility assistance.

This program may also utilize non-profit agencies to serve as subrecipients for program administration throughout the Dallas community to reach and serve more eligible participants.

#### **Eligible Participants**

Residents of the City of Dallas with incomes at or below 80% of the area median income (AMI), as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), who have been impacted by COVID-19.

#### Clients must:

- Earn at or below 80% of Area Median Income (program should target clients who are 50% AMI or below)
- Demonstrate COVID-19 impact
- Reside in the City of Dallas at the time of application
- Be housed and at risk of homelessness

### COVID-19 impact may include:

- proof of job/income loss, temporary or permanent
- reduction in work hours/income
- increased healthcare or household expenses that attributed to insufficiency of rent payments (i.e. increased child-care expenses due to school closures)
- unable to find, or maintain gainful employment due to COVID-19
- inability to find employment due to COVID-19 health restrictions or economic impacts
- other evidence of adverse impact from COVID-19

#### **Eligible Uses**

Rental assistance must be used for rent payments and/or utilities. Funding can be used to pay for all or part of the rent and/or utilities. Funding may be used to pay a client's rental and utility arrears amount or future delinquency, reconnection fees, and late fees that may be required to ensure a client is able to receive utility services. Funding can be used to pay for all or part of eligible expenses. Qualifying arrears must not have occurred prior to March 1, 2020.

#### **Eligible Properties**

Residential properties, publicly or privately-owned, located within Dallas City limits.

#### **Assistance**

Provides up to \$1,500/per unit per month for rental and/or utility assistance for up to twelve (12) total months.

# **Funding**

Various funding types may be used under this program and must follow the requirements of the funding types.

This program statement may be amended by the City Manager or designee to include amendments as appropriate to meet funding requirements. When necessary, the City Manager or designee is authorized to execute change orders in any amount to commit and expend funds timely to meet federal and/or state requirements.

