

**FEBRUARY 3, 2021 CITY COUNCIL BRIEFING AGENDA  
CERTIFICATION**

This certification is given pursuant to Chapter XI, Section 9 of the City Charter for the City Council Briefing Agenda dated February 3, 2021. We hereby certify, as to those contracts, agreements, or other obligations on this Agenda authorized by the City Council for which expenditures of money by the City are required, that all of the money required for those contracts, agreements, and other obligations is in the City treasury to the credit of the fund or funds from which the money is to be drawn, as required and permitted by the City Charter, and that the money is not appropriated for any other purpose.



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T.C. Broadnax  
City Manager

1-29-21

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Date



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Elizabeth Reich  
Chief Financial Officer

1-29-21

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Date



**RECEIVED**

2021 JAN 29 PM 7:35  
CITYSECRETARY  
DALLASTEXAS

**City of Dallas**

1500 Marilla Street  
Dallas, Texas 75201

**Public Notice**

210099

**POSTED** CITY SECRETARY  
DALLAS, TX



**COUNCIL BRIEFING AGENDA**

**February 3, 2021**

**9:00 AM**

(For General Information and Rules of Courtesy, Please See Opposite Side.)

(La Información General Y Reglas De Cortesía Que Deben Observarse

Durante Las Asambleas Del Consejo Municipal Aparecen En El Lado Opuesto, Favor De Leerlas.)

## **General Information**

The Dallas City Council regularly meets on Wednesdays beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 6th floor, City Hall, 1500 Marilla. Council agenda meetings are broadcast live on WRR-FM radio (101.1 FM) and on Time Warner City Cable Channel 16. Briefing meetings are held the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Council agenda (voting) meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays. Anyone wishing to speak at a meeting should sign up with the City Secretary's Office by calling (214) 670-3738 by 5:00 p.m. of the last regular business day preceding the meeting. Citizens can find out the name of their representative and their voting district by calling the City Secretary's Office.

Sign interpreters are available upon request with a 48-hour advance notice by calling (214) 670-5208 V/TDD. The City of Dallas is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. **The Council agenda is available in alternative formats upon request.**

If you have any questions about this agenda or comments or complaints about city services, call 311.

## **Rules of Courtesy**

City Council meetings bring together citizens of many varied interests and ideas. To insure fairness and orderly meetings, the Council has adopted rules of courtesy which apply to all members of the Council, administrative staff, news media, citizens and visitors. These procedures provide:

- That no one shall delay or interrupt the proceedings, or refuse to obey the orders of the presiding officer.
- All persons should refrain from private conversation, eating, drinking and smoking while in the Council Chamber.
- Posters or placards must remain outside the Council Chamber.
- No cellular phones or audible beepers allowed in Council Chamber while City Council is in session.

"Citizens and other visitors attending City Council meetings shall observe the same rules of propriety, decorum and good conduct applicable to members of the City Council. Any person making personal, impertinent, profane or slanderous remarks or who becomes boisterous while addressing the City Council or while

## **Información General**

El Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Dallas se reúne regularmente los miércoles en la Cámara del Ayuntamiento en el sexto piso de la Alcaldía, 1500 Marilla, a las 9 de la mañana. Las reuniones informativas se llevan a cabo el primer y tercer miércoles del mes. Estas audiencias se transmiten en vivo por la estación de radio WRR-FM 101.1 y por cablevisión en la estación *Time Warner City Cable* Canal 16. El Ayuntamiento Municipal se reúne en el segundo y cuarto miércoles del mes para tratar asuntos presentados de manera oficial en la agenda para su aprobación. Toda persona que desee hablar durante la asamblea del Ayuntamiento, debe inscribirse llamando a la Secretaría Municipal al teléfono (214) 670-3738, antes de las 5:00 pm del último día hábil anterior a la reunión. Para enterarse del nombre de su representante en el Ayuntamiento Municipal y el distrito donde usted puede votar, favor de llamar a la Secretaría Municipal.

Intérpretes para personas con impedimentos auditivos están disponibles si lo solicita con 48 horas de anticipación llamando al (214) 670-5208 (aparato auditivo V/TDD). La Ciudad de Dallas se esfuerza por cumplir con el decreto que protege a las personas con impedimentos, *Americans with Disabilities Act*. **La agenda del Ayuntamiento está disponible en formatos alternos si lo solicita.**

Si tiene preguntas sobre esta agenda, o si desea hacer comentarios o presentar quejas con respecto a servicios de la Ciudad, llame al 311.

## **Reglas de Cortesía**

Las asambleas del Ayuntamiento Municipal reúnen a ciudadanos de diversos intereses e ideologías. Para asegurar la imparcialidad y el orden durante las asambleas, el Ayuntamiento ha adoptado ciertas reglas de cortesía que aplican a todos los miembros del Ayuntamiento, al personal administrativo, personal de los medios de comunicación, a los ciudadanos, y a visitantes. Estos reglamentos establecen lo siguiente:

- Ninguna persona retrasará o interrumpirá los procedimientos, o se negará a obedecer las órdenes del oficial que preside la asamblea.
- Todas las personas deben abstenerse de entablar conversaciones, comer, beber y fumar dentro de la cámara del Ayuntamiento.
- Anuncios y pancartas deben permanecer fuera de la cámara del Ayuntamiento.
- No se permite usar teléfonos celulares o enlaces electrónicos (*pagers*) audibles en la cámara del Ayuntamiento durante audiencias del Ayuntamiento Municipal

"Los ciudadanos y visitantes presentes durante las



attending the City Council meeting shall be removed from the room if the sergeant-at-arms is so directed by the presiding officer, and the person shall be barred from further audience before the City Council during that session of the City Council. If the presiding officer fails to act, any member of the City Council may move to require enforcement of the rules, and the affirmative vote of a majority of the City Council shall require the presiding officer to act." Section 3.3(c) of the City Council Rules of Procedure.

asambleas del Ayuntamiento Municipal deben de obedecer las mismas reglas de comportamiento, decoro y buena conducta que se aplican a los miembros del Ayuntamiento Municipal. Cualquier persona que haga comentarios impertinentes, utilice vocabulario obsceno o difamatorio, o que al dirigirse al Ayuntamiento lo haga en forma escandalosa, o si causa disturbio durante la asamblea del Ayuntamiento Municipal, será expulsada de la cámara si el oficial que este presidiendo la asamblea así lo ordena. Además, se le prohibirá continuar participando en la audiencia ante el Ayuntamiento Municipal. Si el oficial que preside la asamblea no toma acción, cualquier otro miembro del Ayuntamiento Municipal puede tomar medidas para hacer cumplir las reglas establecidas, y el voto afirmativo de la mayoría del Ayuntamiento Municipal precisara al oficial que este presidiendo la sesión a tomar acción." Según la sección 3.3 (c) de las reglas de procedimientos del Ayuntamiento.

## **Handgun Prohibition Notice for Meetings of Governmental Entities**

"Pursuant to Section 30.06, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with a concealed handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a concealed handgun."

*"De acuerdo con la sección 30.06 del código penal (ingreso sin autorización de un titular de una licencia con una pistol oculta), una persona con licencia según el subcapítulo h, capítulo 411, código del gobierno (ley sobre licencias para portar pistolas), no puede ingresar a esta propiedad con una pistola oculta."*

"Pursuant to Section 30.07, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with an openly carried handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a handgun that is carried openly."

*"De acuerdo con la sección 30.07 del código penal (ingreso sin autorización de un titular de una licencia con una pistola a la vista), una persona con licencia según el subcapítulo h, capítulo 411, código del gobierno (ley sobre licencias para portar pistolas), no puede ingresar a esta propiedad con una pistola a la vista."*

The City Council meeting will be held by videoconference. Individuals who wish to speak in accordance with the City Council Rules of Procedure must sign up with the City Secretary's Office. The following videoconference link is available to the public to listen to the meeting and Public Affairs and Outreach will also stream the City Council Briefing on Spectrum Cable Channel 95 and [bit.ly/cityofdallas.tv](https://cityofdallas.tv):

<https://dallascityhall.webex.com/dallascityhall/onstage/g.php?MTID=e3d32309e2079f71214a016da752d92e1>

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Special Presentations

Open Microphone Speakers

### **VOTING AGENDA**

1. [21-153](#) Approval of Minutes of the January 6, 2021 City Council Meeting and January 25, 2021 Special Called City Council Meeting
2. [21-154](#) Consideration of appointments to boards and commissions and the evaluation and duties of board and commission members (List of nominees is available in the City Secretary's Office)

### **BRIEFINGS**

- A. [21-108](#) Dallas CARES: Update on COVID-19 Funding

**Attachments:** [Presentation](#)

- B. [21-17](#) Panhandling and Solicitation Overview and Available Strategies

**Attachments:** [Presentation](#)

Adjournment

The above schedule represents an estimate of the order for the indicated briefings and is subject to change at any time. Current agenda information may be obtained by calling (214) 670-3100 during working hours.

Note: An expression of preference or a preliminary vote may be taken by the Council on any of the briefing items.

**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]
6. 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]



# City of Dallas

1500 Marilla Street  
Dallas, Texas 75201

## Agenda Information Sheet

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**File #:** 21-153

**Item #:** 1.

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### **SUBJECT**

Approval of Minutes of the January 6, 2021 City Council Meeting and January 25, 2021 Special Called City Council Meeting





# City of Dallas

1500 Marilla Street  
Dallas, Texas 75201

## Agenda Information Sheet

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**File #:** 21-154

**Item #:** 2.

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**AGENDA DATE:** February 3, 2021

**COUNCIL DISTRICT(S):** N/A

**DEPARTMENT:** City Secretary's Office

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**SUBJECT**

Consideration of appointments to boards and commissions and the evaluation and duties of board and commission members (List of nominees is available in the City Secretary's Office)







# City of Dallas

1500 Marilla Street  
Dallas, Texas 75201

## Agenda Information Sheet

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**File #:** 21-108

**Item #:** A.

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Dallas CARES: Update on COVID-19 Funding





**City of Dallas**

# **Dallas CARES: Update on COVID-19 Funding**

**City Council Briefing  
February 3, 2021**

**M. Elizabeth Reich  
Chief Financial Officer**

# Overview



- Final review of Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) efforts
- Update on new and remaining COVID-19 funding
- Potential gaps in funding



# Coronavirus Relief Fund



- The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES Act) was signed into law on 3/27/20
- CARES Act established \$150B Coronavirus Relief Fund to provide direct payments to state, local, and tribal governments impacted by COVID-19
  - At \$234.4M, CRF was the largest portion of City's funding
  - CRF funds could be used only to cover necessary expenses:
    - Incurred because of COVID-19 public health emergency
    - Not accounted for in most recently approved budget
    - Incurred between 3/1/20 and 12/30/20
- City achieved its goal of spending all funds



# Taking a Comprehensive Approach



Public Health  
& Safety



Community  
Resilience &  
Recovery



Service  
Delivery

Integrating all available funding to maximize impact





Public Health  
& Safety

- Respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and keep our residents safe and healthy

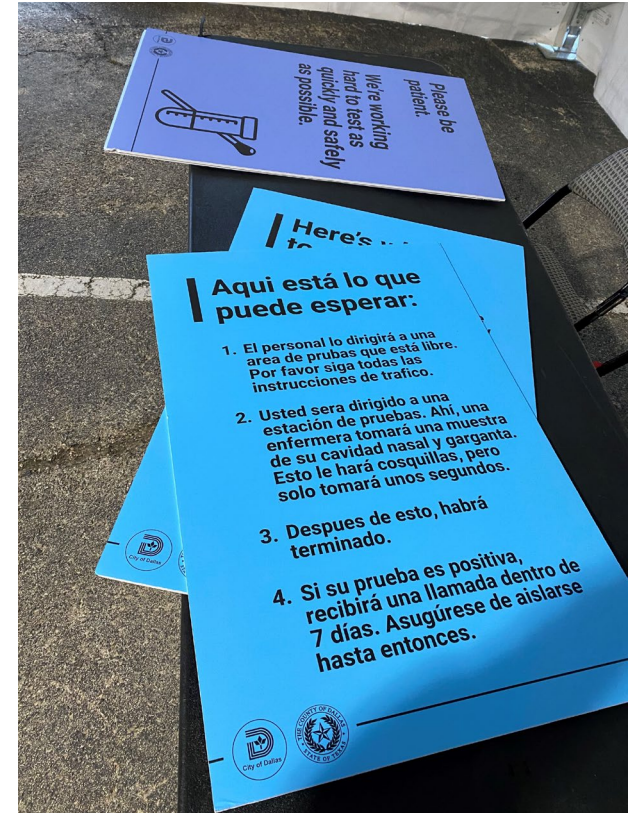




# COVID-19 Testing



- Emergency Management (OEM) administered nearly 270,000 tests to residents through a partnership with Dallas County, Parkland, MCI Diagnostic Center and others
  - Federally supported community-based test sites at the American Airlines Center and Ellis Davis Field House processed 76,000+ PCR tests
    - DPD provided nearly 6,000 hours of traffic control at the AAC during testing
  - UrgentCare2go and MCI allowed City to reach residents without transportation
  - Walk-up/drive-through sites increased our reach to underserved communities
- OEM purchased two pop-up testing trailers that can deploy with trained personnel as needed



Flyers in English and Spanish at the American Airlines Center community-based testing site. (Photo credit: Emergency Management)





# COVID-19 Testing



One of two trailers OEM has purchased for pop-up testing efforts (left). Drive-thru community-based testing site at the American Airlines Center (right). (Photo credit: Emergency Management)



# Emergency Preparedness



- Emergency Management (OEM) purchased and outfitted five RVs at Fair Park as living space for COVID-positive first responders to isolate
  - Housed 11 first responders as of January without ever reaching capacity
- OEM and Fire-Rescue coordinated with local, state, and federal partners to equip the federal medical station at KBHCCD in April and May 2020 in case the hospital system reached capacity



# Procurement



- Procurement Services partnered with more than 30 vendors to order \$9.4M of PPE for City departments and nonprofits
  - Includes 3.9 million masks and 6.4 million gloves
- Ordered more than 28,000 print jobs and signage using graphics produced by COM to raise awareness around COVID-19
- Purchased about 80,000 vehicle decals for all City vehicles (except emergency vehicles and squad cars) with important COVID-19 information for residents
- Decontaminated nearly 3.7 million square feet of City-owned buildings and 345 vehicles and equipment
- Supported other departments in completing COVID-related projects, including community programs, trailers, testing equipment, and many others





# Homelessness Assistance



- Homeless Solutions (OHS) organized more than 50,000 overnight stays at the Convention Center (KBHCCD) shelter
  - DPD provided more than 23,500 hours of security at KBHCCD for shelter operations
- OHS housed 470 people through the Rapid Rehousing project, exceeding their goal of 300



A Rapid Rehousing client in the kitchen of his new home. (Photo credit: Under 1 Roof)



# Homelessness Assistance



- Provided more than 28,000 overnight hotel stays for people experiencing homelessness who tested positive for COVID-19
  - Supported all five major congregate shelters with hotel sheltering as they experienced COVID-19 outbreaks during 2020
  - Facilitated more than 950 overnight hotel stays during inclement weather to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at congregate locations
- Purchased three former hotel properties (324 total units) to support COVID-19 sheltering and future supportive housing needs



# Communication



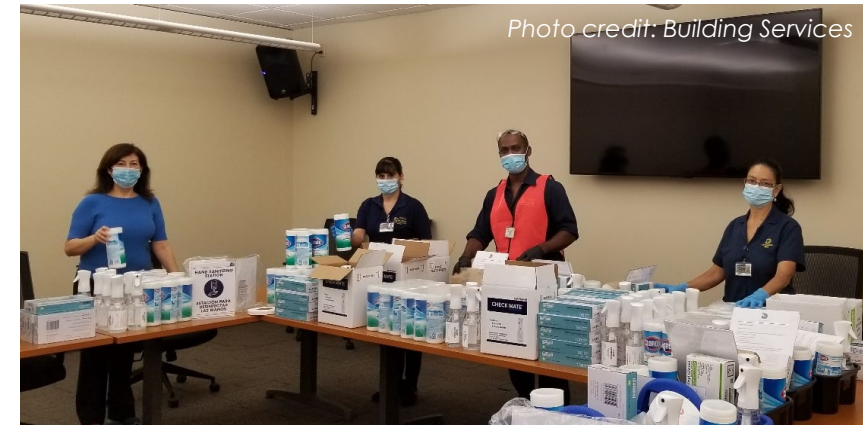
- Communications, Outreach, & Marketing (COM) spearheaded communication of critical and timely public health information to residents and visitors
  - Drove 2.2M views of COVID-19 information online
  - In collaboration with Library, distributed more than 115,000 flyers with financial and health resources to residents living in the ZIP codes with the highest COVID-19 cases
  - Partnered with 25+ City departments and community organizations to distribute COVID-19 PPE kits and information to nearly 200,000 people
- Park & Recreation (PKR) placed digital messaging boards at key locations in high-use parks to minimize overcrowding and remind visitors of public health protocols



# Cleaning and Disinfection



- Building Services assembled and distributed 365 “sanitizing station” kits to departments across multiple City facilities
- Park & Recreation staff decontaminated more than 220 playgrounds and pavilions prior to reopening to the public



Staff preparing sanitizing kits for distribution to other City departments (top). The Westmoreland Park playground after decontamination (bottom).



# Community Resilience & Recovery



Community  
Resilience

- Provide resources and tools to residents, businesses, and nonprofits affected by COVID-19





# Short-Term Rental Assistance



- Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization and Community Care invested \$9.4M in the short-term rental assistance program
- Helped 3,000 households cover rent, mortgage, and utility payments in collaboration with 27 community partners



A caseworker for the short-term rental assistance program speaking with a client on the phone. (Photo credit: The Stewpot)



Two staff members at Harmony CDC's drive-thru rental assistance event on December 10. (Photo credit: Harmony Community Development Corporation)



# Eviction Assistance Initiative



- In December, Equity and Inclusion (EQU) partnered with Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas (LANWT) to provide education and legal services to residents facing eviction because of COVID-19
  - Conducted four community outreach events in December
  - 64,000 impressions from convenience store in-market ads (shown right) as of January 7
- LANWT assisted 71 unduplicated households, including 51 making less than 80% of area median income and 33 with female heads of household
- EQU educated 65 tenants threatened with eviction and provided CDC documentation to present to landlords
  - Met with management at various apartments and extended stay hotels to address eviction-related issues on tenants' behalf



# Making Food Accessible



- COVID-19 created a food crisis for many families experiencing un/underemployment or who were unable to access food safely because of health conditions or lack of transportation
- In response, Community Care administered \$882,000 in grants to community organizations who distributed thousands of meals to more than 13,000 people
  - The Stewpot provided 35,000 family meals to nearly 700 households
  - Meals on Wheels delivered supplemental food boxes to homebound Dallas seniors living alone
  - CitySquare modified its food pantry drive-thru and walk-up options to minimize risk, especially for neighbors who rely on public transportation



Pre-packaged groceries ready for distribution at the CitySquare Food Pantry. (Photo credit: CitySquare)





# Making Food Accessible



Photo credit: CitySquare



Photo credit: VNA Meals on Wheels



Photo credit: The Stewpot

Volunteers package and distribute food at various Making Food Accessible events (left). A thank you note from a guest at The Stewpot (below).

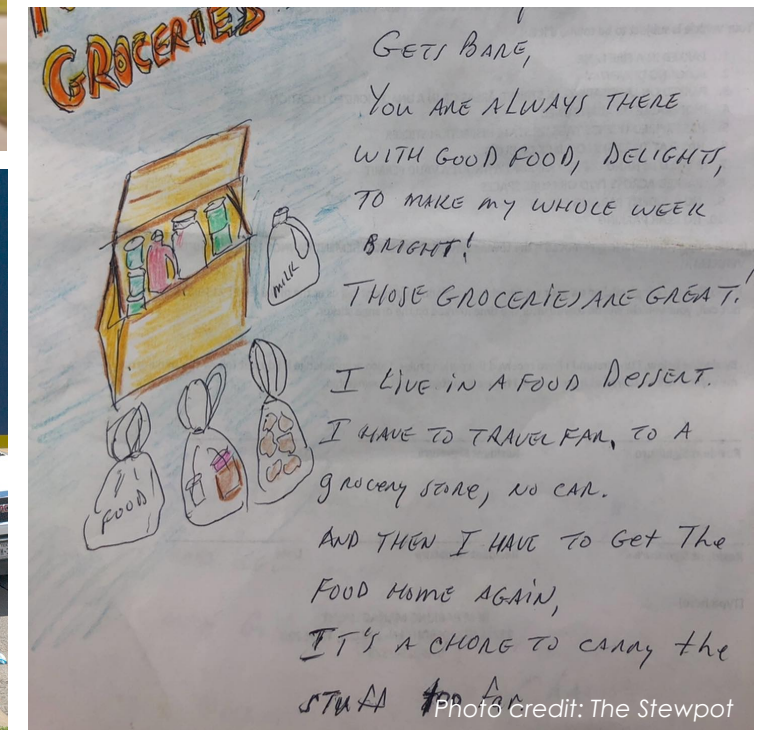


Photo credit: The Stewpot





# Operation Pitter Patter



- Community Care (OCC) enlisted 34 nonprofits to provide essential supplies to 12,000 women, infants, and seniors
  - Included diapers, formula, distilled water, and feminine and senior hygiene products

City staff preparing supplies for community organizations to pick up. (Photo credit: Communications, Outreach, & Marketing)



# Community Mental Health



A Youth180 mental health workshop

YOUTH180



Photo credit: Friendship West Baptist Church

Volunteers prepare to distribute laptops and hot spots for Friendship West's telemental health initiative.

- 646 people received care through the Community Mental Health COVID Relief Program
  - Youth180 provided trauma-responsive mental health counseling and mental health awareness workshops to youth
  - Friendship West Baptist Church delivered laptops and hot spots to allow people to attend online counseling and webinars that connected them to community in a time of isolation
  - Abounding Prosperity provided in-person and telehealth counseling services with a focus on communities most impacted by COVID-19, including low-income, LGBTQ+, Black, Latinx, and senior populations
  - The Stewpot facilitated 242 therapy sessions





# Bridging the Digital Divide



- Nonprofit partner LNEESC Dallas conducted outreach to 500+ residents at two food distribution events; ultimately enrolled 83 heads of household in digital literacy and skills training through their Digital Navigators program
- Library (LIB) purchased 1,200 laptops for checkout beginning in February
  - Also creating a support network and digital instruction to help customers increase their computer skills
  - Building a one-stop portal on the library website for information about LIB's digital equity efforts



Library staff prepare hot spots for checkout. (Photo credit: Library)



# Bridging the Digital Divide



Jan 1, 2021 at 11:59:57 AM  
1223 N Morocco Ave  
Dallas TX 75211  
United States



Installed Wi-Fi equipment. (Photo credit: Public Works)

- Public Works (PBW) finished installing 70+ poles with Wi-Fi equipment at 10 pilot locations, serving an estimated 3,200 households that previously lacked internet access
- PBW is also collaborating with Transportation, ITS, and Integrated Public Safety Solutions to install 100 new streetlights with Wi-Fi equipment in 10 additional pilot locations
  - Expands Wi-Fi access to another 150-300 homes and parts of Oak Cliff Park
  - Seven projects in areas the Mayor's Task Force on Safe Communities identified as in need of lighting





# Small Business Assistance



- Economic Development awarded \$2.8M in grants to 266 small businesses, with an average amount of \$10,593
- Office of Special Events launched a temporary parklet program that has been instrumental in keeping many businesses open
  - Allows businesses to convert on-street parking spaces into additional merchandising or dining areas so they can serve more customers while observing social distancing guidelines
  - Distributed \$100,000 to restaurants to offset the cost of installing and maintaining the temporary parklets and purchased plans for the semi/permanent street seats (\$50,000), reducing direct expenses for restaurants, retailers, and community groups



# Small Business Assistance



*Photo credit: Office of Special Events*

A temporary parklet at The Heights in the Lakewood neighborhood.



*Photo credit: Urban Fabric Photography*

Off the Bone Barbeque, a recipient of a small business assistance grant in the Cedars neighborhood.



# Nonprofit Assistance



- Arts & Culture dedicated \$1.7M to retrofit museums, performing arts spaces, and City-owned cultural venues to allow artists, residents, and visitors to safely engage in arts and cultural experiences across Dallas and virtually
- Worked with 20 organizations to upgrade HVAC systems, install hand sanitizing stations, public health protocol signage, and touchless thermometers, and purchase masks for staff and visitors
  - Many venues were able to safely reopen in September 2020, including the Dallas Museum of Art, the Holocaust Museum, and Dallas Heritage Village
- Spent remaining funds on similar upgrades at City-owned cultural venues, including the Majestic Theater, Moody Performance Hall, and four neighborhood cultural centers



# Nonprofit Assistance



- In keeping with CDC recommendations to prioritize outdoor activities, Park & Recreation committed \$2M to ensure nonprofit partners like Fair Park, Klyde Warren Park, and the Dallas Arboretum could continue operating safely
  - Allowed partners to increase cleaning and disinfecting services and provide additional PPE to their frontline employees
  - Installed signage, stickers, and stanchions to encourage social distancing
- Community Care invested nearly \$1M in 37 community-based organizations to mitigate the financial impact of the pandemic on Dallas' vital nonprofit sector

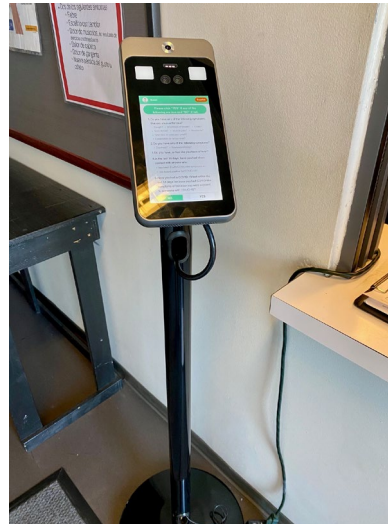




# Nonprofit Assistance



(Clockwise from top left) Patrons wait to purchase concessions at Strauss Square, the outdoor space at the AT&T Performing Arts Center. Signage and a removable barrier at the Dallas Arboretum. A water bottle refill station. A contactless kiosk at ATPAC. A floor sticker encouraging social distancing. Self-cleaning glass at ATPAC. (Photo credits: Office of Arts & Culture, Park & Recreation)





Service  
Delivery

- Safely provide services to residents according to the “Return to Work” plan, using technology when possible



# Facility Updates and Retrofits



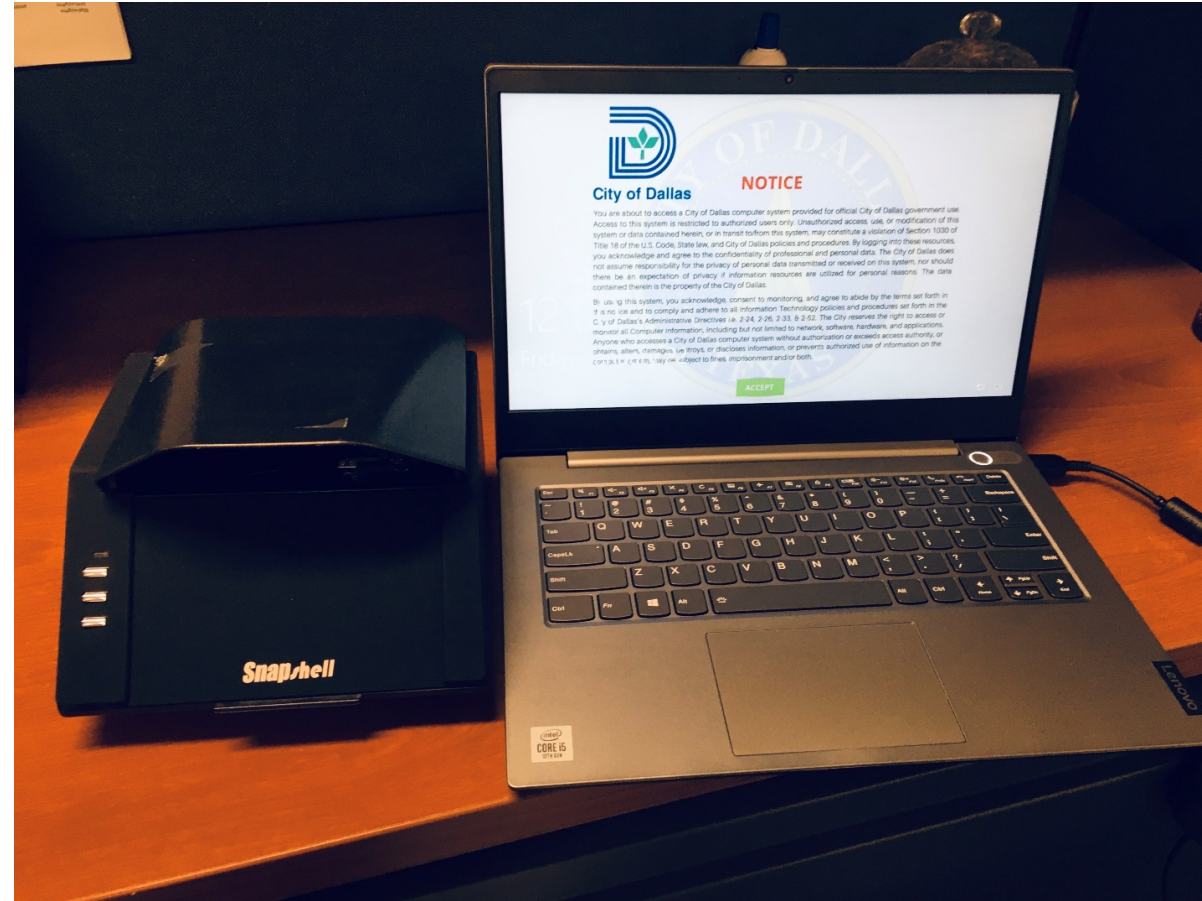
- Building Services (BSD) retrofitted HVAC mechanical systems, including UV disinfection and enhanced air filtration, at 29 facilities and disinfected AC ductwork in 56 City buildings
- BSD installed or upgraded 2,510 sinks and plumbing fixtures, 125 water fountains, and 64 ice dispensers to touchless models
- Equipment & Fleet Management sealed flooring at all five fleet maintenance facilities to reduce time spent on environmental remediation/cleaning and enhance safety



# Facility Updates and Retrofits



- Court & Detention Services retrofitted 23 City facilities with security technology and safety measures, including:
  - Surveillance and people-counting systems to monitor building occupancy and ensure social distancing
  - Visitor and contact tracing
  - Facility access controls, video intercom, and door release systems to minimize contact



A laptop with ID scanner at Oak Cliff Municipal Center. This visitor management system is used to gather contact information from visitors in case of potential COVID-19 exposure. Data is purged after 30 days. (Photo credit: Court & Detention Services)

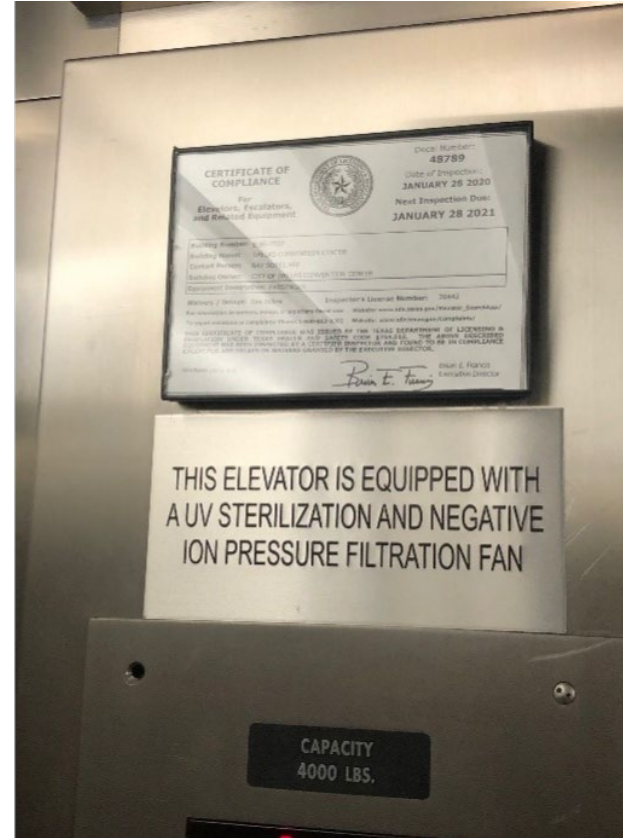




# Facility Updates and Retrofits



- Convention & Event Services invested in health and safety updates at the Convention Center and American Airlines Center, including air purifiers, Plexiglass protective barriers, additional hand sanitizing stations, and public health protocol signage



All 14 elevators at KBHCCD are equipped with UV air purification vents and self-cleaning button covers (left). Touchless ticket scanner pedestals at the AAC. (Photo credit: Convention & Event Services)



# Facility Updates and Retrofits



Photo credit: Building Services



Photo credit: Court & Detention Services



Photo credit: Court & Detention Services

(From left) A high-volume disinfecting wipe dispenser. The security control office at MLK Community Center, which allows staff to monitor and collect data on building occupancy. These video intercom systems are installed at all exterior entries to City Hall.





# Technology to Support Employees



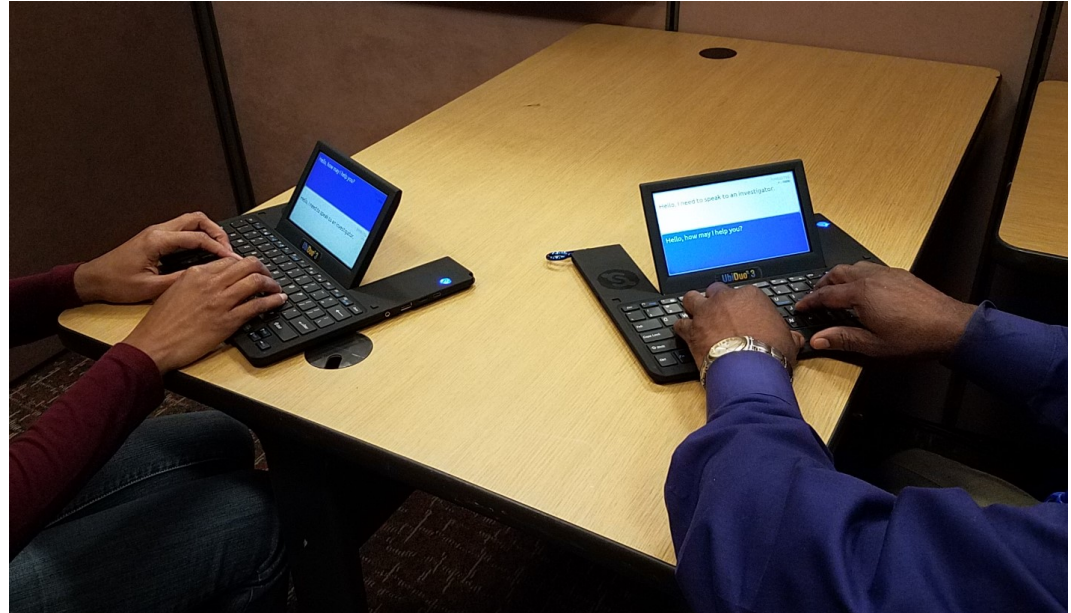
- Information & Technology Services (ITS) deployed 3,544 laptops to employees working remotely
  - Devices have increased processing power to ensure reliability and cameras and microphones to support remote collaboration—a first for the City
- Increased VPN capacity 10x and expanded the maximum number of concurrent users to 10,000 (from 4,000)
- To ensure security, ITS implemented several best practices, including:
  - Installed up-to-date Windows 10 operating system on all machines, eliminating the risks of Windows 7
  - Added layer of malware protection, which initially caught more than a million pieces of malware
  - Added multifactor authentication for users to prevent accounts from being compromised



# Technology to Support Residents



- Equity & Inclusion purchased 60 UbiDuo devices to improve communication with deaf and hard-of-hearing customers while socially distancing
- ITS launched DalBot, a chat bot designed to meet residents' needs without visiting a City facility, and received 840,000 queries through the end of January



UbiDuo devices. (Photo credit: Equity & Inclusion)





# New and Remaining COVID-19 Funding

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# Federal Response



- Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act enacted 3/6/20
  - Primarily for CDC but included \$1.05B for states
- Families First Coronavirus Response Act enacted 3/14/20
  - Emergency paid sick leave and expanded FMLA
- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act enacted 3/27/20
  - Coronavirus Relief Fund
  - FEMA disaster reimbursement
  - Additional formula and competitive funding
- Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act enacted 12/27/20
  - \$900B pandemic relief measure



# Current Funding Allocations (in millions)\*



Funding Source	Deadline	Public Health & Safety	Community Resilience & Recovery	Service Delivery	Total
Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)**	12/31/21	\$137.1	\$38.6	\$59.5	\$235.2
Airport Grants	6/3/24	1.5	32.5	20.4	54.4
Housing & Urban Development (HUD) – Existing	Various	0.5	6.4		6.9
HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)-1	6/4/26 (80% within 3 years)		8.9		8.9
CDBG-2 via TDHCA (on 2/10 agenda)			3.4		3.4
CDBG-3			11.8		11.8
HUD Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG)	9/30/22 (20% within 1 year, 80% within 18 months)	20.1	0.9		4.4
HUD Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	6/18/23		1.2		1.2
BJA Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF)	1/3/22	2.3			2.3
CESF via the Office of the Governor	6/30/21	1.0			1.0
Women, Infants, & Children (WIC)	9/30/21		0.1		0.1
HHS Provider Relief Fund	12/31/20	0.5			0.5
Texas Department of Housing & Community Affairs (TDHCA)-1	1/31/22		0.04		0.04
Assistance to Firefighters Grant (competitive)	7/2/21	0.9			0.9
Texas State Library Archives Commission (competitive)	8/31/21		0.05		0.05
CRSSA Emergency Rental Assistance	12/31/21		40.7		40.7
FEMA Disaster Assistance	N/A				TBD
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$163.9</b>	<b>\$144.6</b>	<b>\$79.9</b>	<b>\$388.4***</b>

\*Does not include funding that went to entities other than the City

\*\*CRF amounts listed may change as the final accounting/reconciliation is completed

\*\*\*Does not include \$173K in funding from private sources; refer to the appendix for details



# CRRSA Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA)



- \$25B for rental assistance allocated to all states and local governments with populations of 200,000+
  - City Council approved \$40.7M for the program on 1/27/21
- Up to 12 months of assistance for households up to 80% area median income (AMI)
  - Gives priority to households (1) at or below 50% AMI or (2) with an individual unemployed for 90+ days or unable to work because of public health order





# City ERA Qualifications



- Eligible renter households must be in Dallas and have one or more individuals who:
  - Qualify for unemployment or experienced a financial hardship due to COVID-19
  - Demonstrate a risk of homelessness or housing instability
  - Have a household income at or below 80% AMI
- Households should not be receiving any other federally funded rental assistance
- Landlords and utility companies may apply on behalf of tenants if:
  - Tenant cosigns the application
  - Landlord provides documentation to tenant
  - Payments are used to pay the tenant's rent or utilities
- Provides up to \$1,500 per unit per month for rental and/or utility assistance for up to 12 total months



# CRRSA Food Assistance



- \$13B for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to increase benefits by 15%
  - Expands SNAP eligibility to college students
- \$400M for food banks through Emergency Food Assistance Program
- \$175M for senior nutrition services, including Meals on Wheels
- Expands food access for children
  - Any child under 6 eligible for grocery voucher through Pandemic EBT program



# CRRSA “Save Our Stages”



- Modeled on the bipartisan Save Our Stages Act introduced by Senators Cornyn and Klobuchar in 2020
- \$15B for small business assistance grants to:
  - Small live venue operators/promoters
  - Theatrical producers
  - Museum operators
  - Movie theater operators
  - Talent representatives
- Grants up to \$20M for those with revenue loss of 25% or more
  - Gives priority to organizations with revenue loss greater than 90%, which includes Majestic Theater and Moody Performance Hall
  - Funding also set aside for organizations with 50 or fewer employees
- Eligible uses include payroll, rent, utilities, and PPE



# Other CRRSA Assistance



- \$285B for additional round of SBA Paycheck Protection Program
  - Tightens definition of small business to fewer than 300 employees
- Additional one-time stimulus payments of \$600 per adult and child (with income caps) and additional \$300 per week in unemployment benefits through 3/14/21



# Other CRRSA Items



- \$4.25B for mental health services
  - \$1.65B each for Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Community Mental Health Services block grants to states
- \$10B for HHS child care block grants to states
- \$82B for educational entities distributed similarly to CARES Act education funds
- Broadband
  - \$3.2B for \$50/month emergency benefit to low-income households, administered through FCC Lifeline Program
  - \$285M for broadband grants to HBCUs, tribal colleges and universities, and other minority-serving institutions
  - \$250M for FCC telehealth grants



# Potential Issues/Gaps in Funding



- CRRSA does not provide any direct, flexible assistance to states or municipalities
- President Biden unveiled \$1.9T relief package on 1/14/21
  - Calls on Congress to provide \$350B in emergency funding for state, local, and territorial governments to keep front-line workers on the job
    - City staff focused on methodology for distributing state and local funding
  - Other notable provisions include funding for a national vaccination plan, expanded paid leave, additional small business assistance, and more





**[financialtransparency.dallascityhall.com](https://financialtransparency.dallascityhall.com)**

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# Appendix

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# CRRSA Paycheck Protection Program



- \$285B for additional round of SBA Paycheck Protection Program
- Tightens definition of small business to fewer than 300 employees
  - Must demonstrate at least 25% revenue reduction since start of pandemic
- Allows restaurants to receive up to 14 weeks of payroll (vs. 10 for other businesses) at higher multiplier
- Allows “destination marketing organizations” (visitors bureaus) to apply
- Sets aside funds for businesses with fewer than 10 employees, first-time borrowers, and lenders in low-income communities and communities of color
- Targets assistance to M/WBEs, veteran-owned businesses, and other underserved owners



# CRRSA Stimulus, Unemployment, and Leave



- One-time stimulus payments of \$600 for individuals earning less than \$75,000 or \$600 per adult for households earning less than \$150,000, plus \$600 per child
- Additional \$300 per week in unemployment benefits through 3/14/21
  - Extends Pandemic Unemployment Insurance Program through 3/14/21 for gig/self-employed workers and increases allowable number of weeks from 39 to 50
- Does not extend paid leave under FFCRA, but offers tax credits to employers who continue providing
  - Local governments excluded from eligibility for tax credits
  - City will extend paid leave eligibility using existing department appropriations



# CRRSA Transportation



- \$2B for airports/airport concessionaires, including Love Field and DEA, using Airport Improvement Program formula
  - \$15B for airline industry payroll support
  - \$1B for airline contractors
- \$14B for public transit, including DART, using existing formulas
- \$10B for state departments of transportation, using existing formulas
- \$2B for private motor coach and school bus industries
- \$1B for Amtrak





# Water/Wastewater Emergency Assistance



- \$638M in FY21 LHHS appropriations bill
- Emergency funding to ensure low-income households have access to drinking water and wastewater services
- New program so HHS must develop guidance and mechanism for allocating funds to states



# Other Funding



- Private grants for supplies for expanded foster program and animal care
  - PetSmart Charities (2): \$30K
  - Maddie's Fund (2): \$70K
  - ASPCA: \$50K
  - Bissell Pet Foundation (3): \$13K
  - Humane Society/Mars Petcare: \$10K



# Public Health & Safety Updates (in millions)



	CRF Allocation – 6/17/20	CRF Allocation – 12/30/20
Homeless assistance	\$13.5	\$18.9
Testing*	23.9	11.7
PPE	12.0	14.3
Cleaning and sanitation services	8.0	9.4
Communication	3.5	3.3
Related payroll expenses	60.0	79.5
<b>Public Health &amp; Safety</b>	<b>\$120.9</b>	<b>\$137.1</b>

\*Cost sharing with Dallas County; table shows only City costs

\*\*CRF amounts listed may change as the final accounting/reconciliation is completed



# Community Resilience & Recovery Updates (in millions)



	CRF Allocation – 6/17/20	CRF Allocation – 12/30/20
Rent/mortgage/utility assistance	\$10.0	\$9.6
Bridging the digital divide	10.0	9.9
Small business assistance	2.0	3.3
Food security, child care providers, and social service programs	2.5	3.5
Cultural/recreational facility assistance	1.0	4.3
Health support services	2.0	1.0
Related payroll expenses	4.2	7.0
<b>Community Resilience &amp; Recovery</b>	<b>\$31.7</b>	<b>\$38.6</b>

\*CRF amounts listed may change as the final accounting/reconciliation is completed





# Service Delivery Updates (in millions)



	CRF Allocation – 6/17/20	CRF Allocation – 12/30/20
City facility retrofits	\$22.0	\$18.1
Residents doing business online (ITS)	5.0	3.0
Employee tools (ITS)	25.0	24.9
Visitor management	1.0	1.1
Related payroll expenses	28.8	12.4
<b>Service Delivery</b>	<b>\$81.8</b>	<b>\$59.5</b>

\*CRF amounts listed may change as the final accounting/reconciliation is completed





# City of Dallas

1500 Marilla Street  
Dallas, Texas 75201

## Agenda Information Sheet

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**File #:** 21-17

**Item #:** B.

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Panhandling and Solicitation Overview and Available Strategies



# Overview of Panhandling, Solicitation, and Available Strategies

**City Council Briefing  
February 3, 2021**

Christopher J. Caso,  
City Attorney

Jill Haning, Chief of  
Community Prosecution



**City of Dallas**

# Overview



- Background
- Constitutional Issues
- Available Tools
- Next Steps





# Background – Departmental Input & Collaboration



- **This is a multifaceted issue. Effectively addressing it requires a multifaceted approach – across many City departments.**
  - City Attorney's Office
  - Office of Homeless Solutions
  - Dallas Police Department
  - Office of Integrated Public Safety Solutions
  - Dallas City Marshal's Office
  - Court & Detention Services
  - Dallas Fire Rescue
  - Office of Community Police Oversight
  - Public Works Department



# Background – City Initiatives



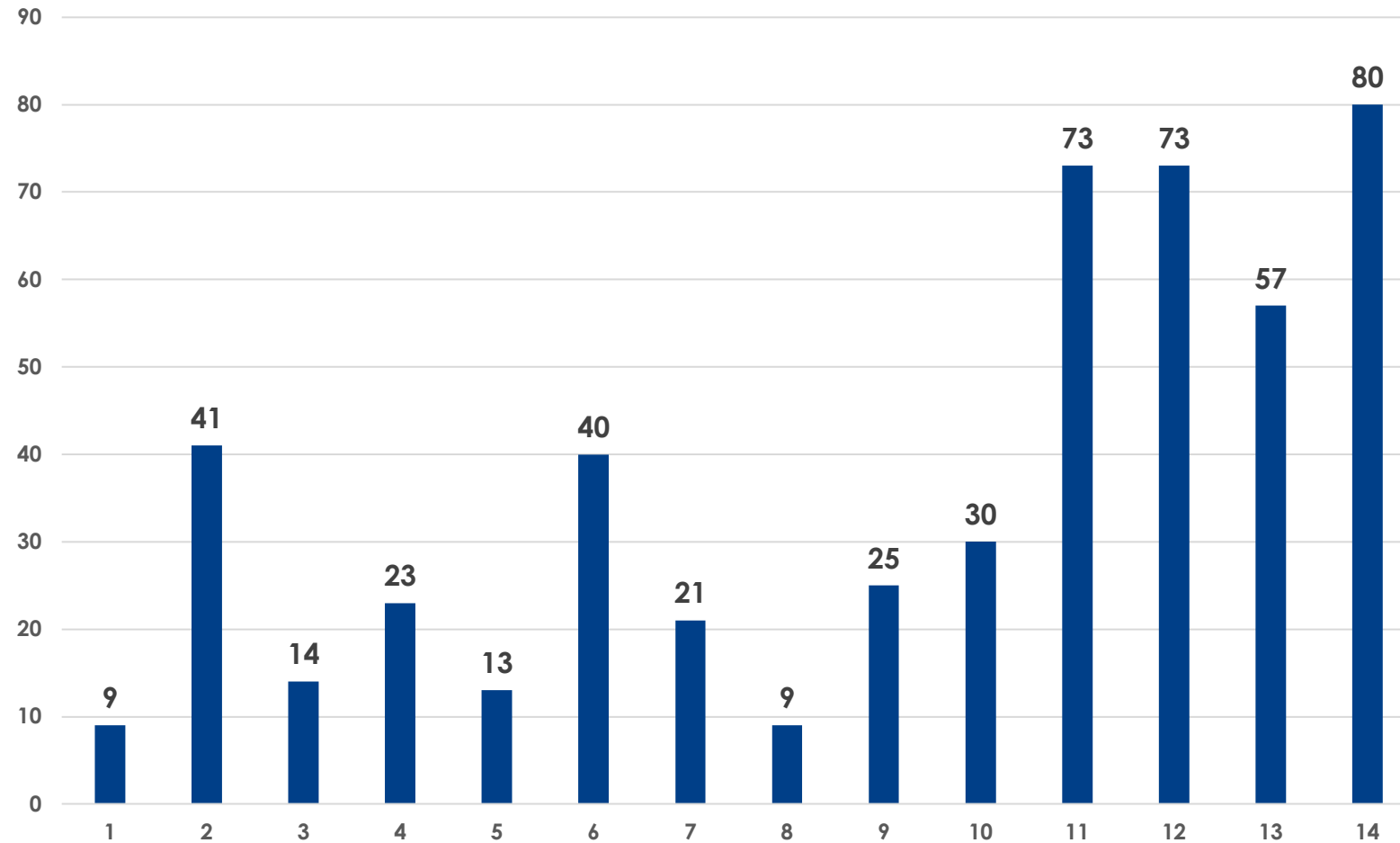
- **Dallas Police Department** – DPD enforces laws to address issues related to panhandling through citation and/or arrest. In 2015, DPD recommended placing “Keep the Change” signs in high traffic areas.
- **Community Court** – Community Courts assist individuals issued quality of life citations associated with panhandling. Along with addressing their criminal offenses, the courts help individuals with mental health, housing, job placement, substance abuse, and other supportive services.
- **Dallas City Marshal’s Office** – A program is being developed at the City’s Detention Center to refer individuals to community-based support providers to provide them assistance when they are facing quality of life challenges such as homelessness, unemployment, substance abuse, or mental health issues.
- **Office of Community Care** – In 2018, the End Panhandling Now initiative used data to respond to panhandling with social services and referrals delivered by street outreach workers coupled with a social media and outreach campaign designed to educate the community about panhandling and discourage giving directly to panhandlers.
- **Office of Homeless Solutions (“OHS”)** – Panhandling outreach has transitioned to OHS as the research showed a high percentage of individuals that panhandle were individuals experiencing homelessness and/or on the continuum (e.g. living day-to-day in motels).



# Background – Panhandling Service Requests 2020



Panhandling Service Requests by Council District



# Background – Local Factors



- Individuals panhandle for a variety of reasons.
- According to the City's street outreach during the End Panhandling Now initiative:
  - *Most individuals are fulfilling basic needs, such as food or shelter.*
  - *Most individuals are considered homeless and/or on the continuum.*
  - *Mental health prevents many from getting and keeping traditional employment and from seeking social services, including shelters.*
  - *Individuals earn anywhere from \$20-\$300 daily.*
- These findings are consistent with other studies conducted across the country.



# Background - Sites



Of the 508 service requests in 2020, 32 sites were more heavily trafficked (See Appendix 1) – with 6 of those being the most trafficked.

- Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
- Samuell Blvd. & Jim Miller Road
- Galleria
- N. Central Expressway & Royal Lane
- 7950 Forest Lane
- Walnut Hill & N. Central Expressway SB





# Constitutional Concerns



- The Supreme Court and lower courts have repeatedly found that asking for help is protected speech under the First Amendment.
- Courts regard the act of asking for money as protected speech and generally prevent cities from criminalizing panhandling or soliciting for money.
- Enforcement which specifically targets panhandling likely violates the First Amendment.
  - *Banning “aggressive panhandling”*
  - *Prohibiting panhandling in specified areas or at specific times*
  - *Requiring panhandlers to obtain solicitation permits*



# Available Tools



Addressing the issues associated with panhandling will require a combination of:

- **Implementing supportive solutions**
- **Modifying existing ordinances and adopting new ordinances**
- **Enforcing existing ordinances and state law**



# Criminal Offenses



- Cities may regulate illegal conduct associated with panhandling.
  - *Littering*
  - *Pedestrian in the Roadway*
  - *Obstructing Highway or Other Passageway*
  - *Impeding Traffic*
  - *Urinating or Defecating in Public*
  - *Criminal Mischief*
  - *Reckless Damage*
  - *Disorderly Conduct*
  - *Assault*
  - *Robbery*



# Municipal Ordinances



- **Broad solicitation ordinances that are content-neutral might survive a constitutional challenge, so long as there is a compelling governmental interest, and they are narrowly tailored.**
  - *Banning all forms of solicitation*
  - *Prohibiting giving to any solicitors*
  - *Requiring all solicitors to obtain solicitation permits*
  - *Prohibiting solicitation at certain times*



# Municipal Ordinances



- **Ordinances that indirectly address panhandling might survive a constitutional challenge.**
  - *Restricting sitting or standing on a sidewalk less than 36 inches*
  - *Require specific land uses that serve individuals who panhandle to develop a “Code of Conduct” that prohibits panhandling by clients; and a plan to manage panhandling in a specified area around the approved land use*
- However, based on the specific language of the ordinance or the specific application of the ordinance, they may face constitutional challenges.





# Supportive Strategies



- Strategies that address what is believed to be the reason why individuals panhandle are being implemented across the country.
- Criminalization of panhandling often results in unpaid citations and outstanding warrants - limiting an individual's ability to obtain a driver's license, housing, or employment, and indirectly increasing or impacting homelessness.



# Modifying the Environment



- The physical environment can be modified to discourage panhandling:
  - *Removing benches; unused pay phones; and/or newspaper boxes*
  - *Adding signage re applicable laws and alternative giving options*
  - *Redesigning appropriate landscaping and lighting*
  - *Activating the space to promote activity – mural art, street musicians, businesses, etc.*



# Same-Day Pay Program



The program offers individuals who panhandle an opportunity to earn a daily wage – and create substantive steps towards finding a job, reconnecting with loved ones, or obtaining steady shelter.

City	Program	Funding	Details
Albuquerque, NM	<b><i>There's A Better Way Initiative</i></b>	City of Albuquerque and Various non-profits	The program pays participants a day's wage to beautify the community during each service day while connecting them with social services.
Philadelphia, PA	<b>Color Me Back: A Same Day Work and Pay Program</b>	City of Philadelphia, Scattergood Foundation, SEPTA, Sheller Family Foundation, and Mental Health Partnerships	The program offers individuals looking for work to assist with mural painting through a lottery program. They work for half the day and receive a paycheck. Participants can also be connected to city services, such as signing up for a city identification card and connecting to housing and mentorship.

*Syracuse, NY; Tulsa, OK; Denver, CO; Boston, MA; San Diego, CA; Fort Worth, TX; San Jose, CA; Portland, ME; San Antonio, TX; Atlanta, GA; Memphis, TN*



# Encouraging Alternatives to Giving Curbside



- **Giving to Non-Profits Serving Individuals Who Panhandlers**

- This program provides a meaningful way for individuals to give to organizations who serve individuals who panhandle, including text message or websites.
- OHS is working with San Antonio to develop a program in Dallas.
- *Philadelphia, PA; Atlanta, GA; Baltimore, MD; Denver, CO; San Antonio, Tx*

- **Using Technology to Give Directly to Individuals Who Panhandle - Samaritan App**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YZSgQLdGmkg>

- The program provides qualifying individuals with a small “beacon” (a key fob that functions as a smart wallet) which they can obtain through local non-profits.
- People who download the app get notifications when they cross paths with a qualifying individual and are invited to read their stories and donate money through the app.
- The “beacon holders” can then use their funds at local partner businesses or ask their counselors to apply the funds to their rent or a different purchase.
- *Jacksonville, FL; Atlanta, GA; Seattle, WA; Chicago, IL; Oklahoma City, OK; Orange County, CA*





# Voucher Payments



The program allows people to buy vouchers to give to individuals panhandling which are redeemable for food, shelter, transportation, or other necessities.

- a private, nonprofit organization prints and sells the vouchers and serves as the broker between buyers and merchants.
- vouchers are often accompanied with printed information about where they can be redeemed and what social services are available to the needy.

Los Angeles, CA; Berkeley, CA; Santa Cruz, CA; San Francisco, CA; Nashville, TN; Memphis, TN; New Haven, CT; Portland, OR; Chicago, IL; Seattle, WA; Boulder, CO; and New York, NY.





# Providing Social Services



- This may include:
  - assistance finding housing that is more affordable;
  - locating community food programs;
  - locating childcare programs;
  - connecting to other activities that decrease social isolation or reconnect with employment, training, education or needed health services; or
  - help navigating available social assistance benefits.



# Proposed Solutions



This multifaceted problem requires a commitment of resources to implement a solution that is a combination of:

- **Implementation of Supportive Solutions**
- **Considering City Code Amendments**
  - 1) prohibit all forms of solicitation;
  - 2) prohibit any giving to solicitors; and/or
  - 3) prohibit sitting or standing on a sidewalk/median less than 36 inches.
- **Enforcement**



# Next Steps



- Consider feedback and direction from City Council.
- Further develop options in coordination with appropriate departments.
- Provide follow up briefings to City Council.
- Draft appropriate ordinances.
- Implement enforcement and supportive strategies.



# QUESTIONS



# Overview of Panhandling, Solicitation, and Available Strategies

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