



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

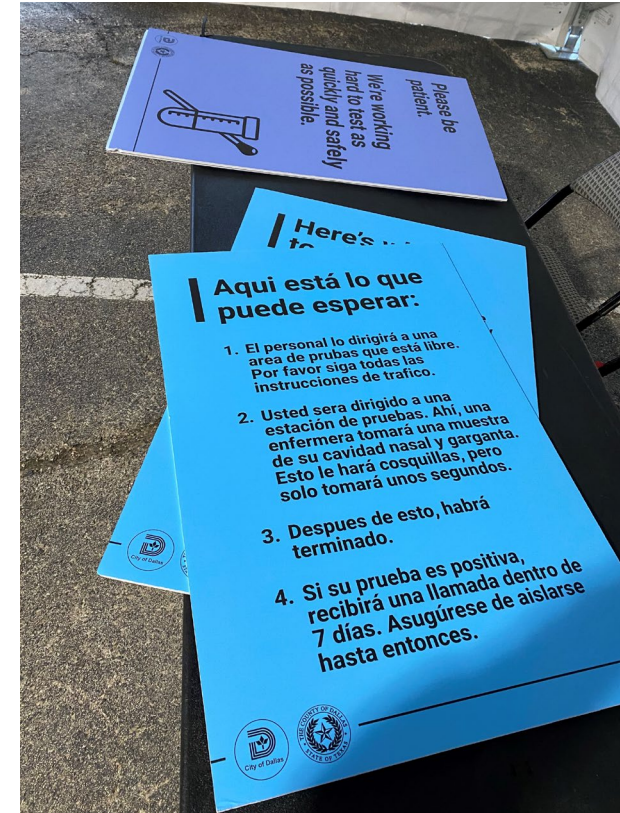
- Respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and keep our residents safe and healthy



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



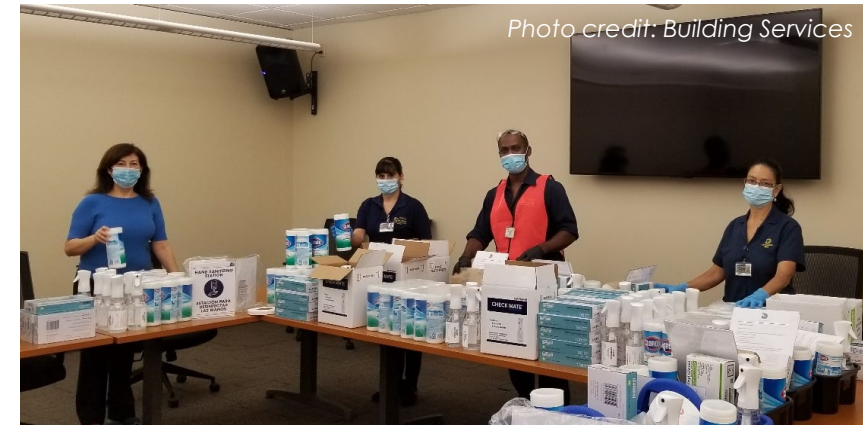
- Communications, Outreach, & Marketing (COM) spearheaded communication of critical and timely public health information to residents and visitors
 - Drove 2.2M views of COVID-19 information online
 - In collaboration with Library, distributed more than 115,000 flyers with financial and health resources 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

- 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).

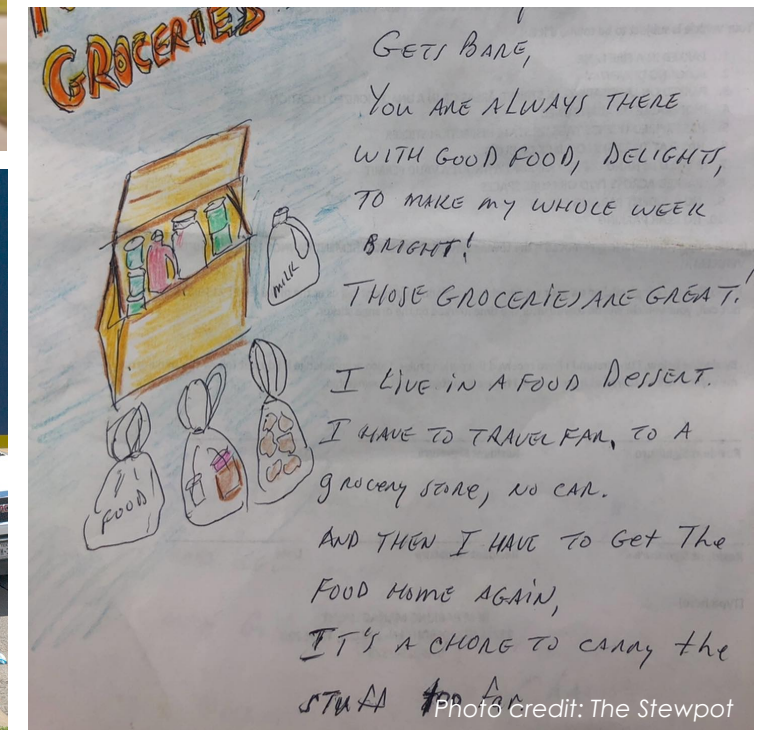


Photo credit: The Stewpot



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



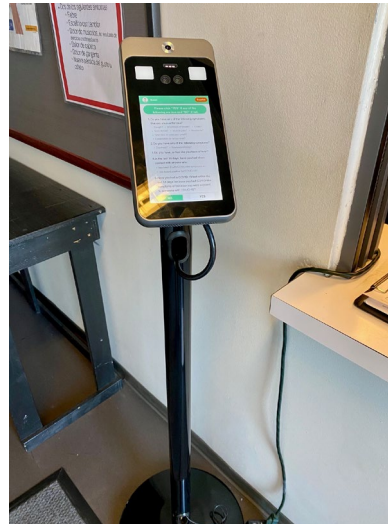
- In keeping with CDC recommendations to prioritize outdoor activities, Park & Recreation committed \$2M to ensure nonprofit partners like Fair Park, Klyde Warren Park, and the Dallas Arboretum could continue operating safely
 - Allowed partners to increase cleaning and disinfecting services and provide 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



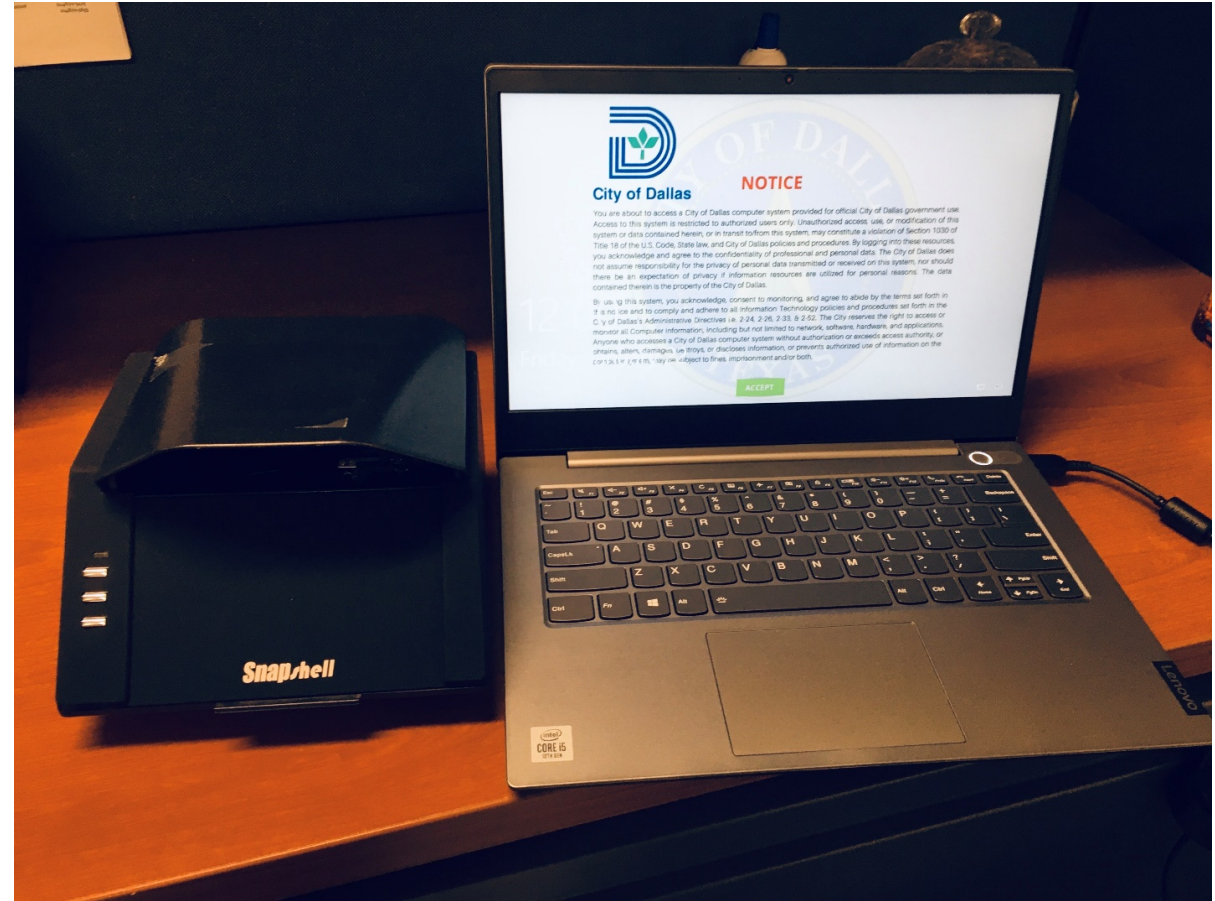
- Building Services (BSD) retrofitted HVAC mechanical systems, including UV disinfection and enhanced air filtration, at 29 facilities and disinfected AC ductwork in 56 City buildings
- BSD installed or upgraded 2,510 sinks and plumbing fixtures, 125 water fountains, and 64 ice dispensers to touchless 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



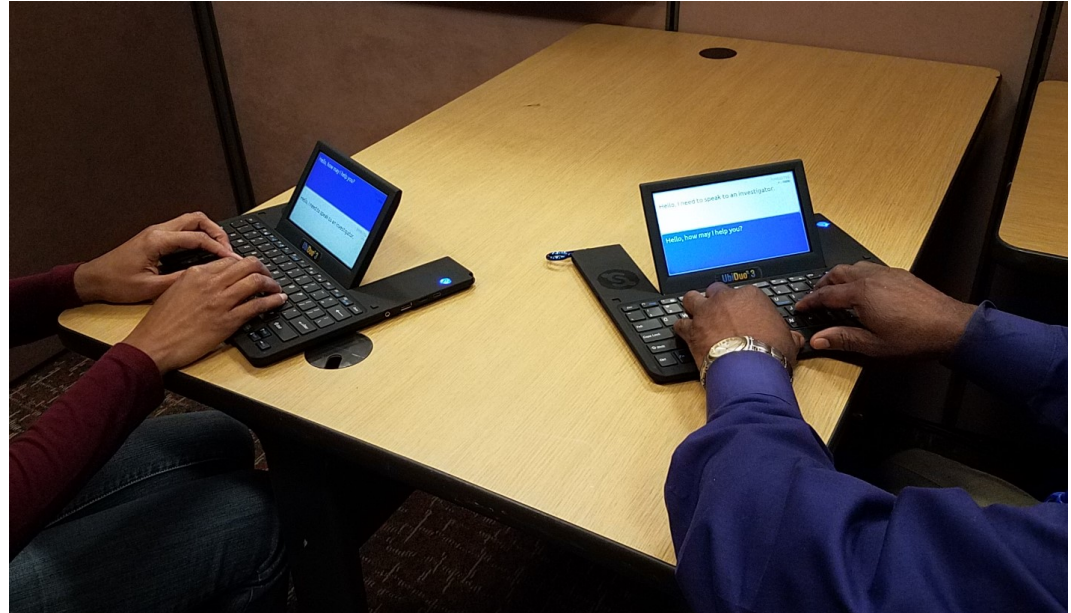
- Information & Technology Services (ITS) deployed 3,544 laptops to employees working remotely
 - Devices have increased processing power to ensure reliability and cameras and microphones to support remote collaboration—a first for the City
- Increased VPN capacity 10x and expanded the maximum number 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

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
TOTAL		\$163.9	\$144.6	\$79.9	\$388.4***

*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





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Appendix

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
Public Health & Safety	\$120.9	\$137.1

*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
Community Resilience & Recovery	\$31.7	\$38.6

*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
Service Delivery	\$81.8	\$59.5

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

