



Legislation Text

File #: 23-2842, Version: 1

STRATEGIC PRIORITY: Housing & Homelessness Solutions

AGENDA DATE: December 13, 2023

COUNCIL DISTRICT(S): [8](#) [3](#)

DEPARTMENT: Office of Homeless Solutions

EXECUTIVE: Kimberly Bizer Tolbert

SUBJECT

Authorize **(1)** rescinding Resolution No. 22-1011, previously approved on June 22, 2022 that authorized the execution of an interlocal agreement with Dallas County (“County”) to accept funds in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000.00; **(2)** the acceptance of a \$2,500,000.00 grant from the County’s allocated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Grant Funds; and **(3)** execution of a subrecipient agreement using such funds for the redevelopment, renovation, and construction of 4150 Independence Drive, Dallas, Texas 75237 (city-owned real property) to provide supportive housing and services for households at or below the 30 percent Area Median Income for the period December 13, 2023 through September 30, 2026 - Not to exceed \$2,500,000.00 - Financing: FY22 Dallas County ARPA Grant Funds

BACKGROUND

In 2019 the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic was declared a public health emergency in the United States in January 2020. In responding to the public health emergency and its negative economic impacts, state, local, and tribal governments experienced substantial increases in costs to provide services, often amid substantial declines in revenue due to the economic downturn and changing economic patterns during the pandemic.

On March 11, 2021, President Joe Biden signed into law H.R. 1319, a \$1.9 trillion supplemental appropriations bill commonly referred to as the ARPA, which funds are intended to provide additional federal resources for economic stimulus and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the \$362 billion in federal fiscal recovery aid allocated to state and local governments, \$65.1 billion was provided under ARPA direct aid to counties. On June 1, 2021, the Dallas County Commissioners Court accepted \$511,918,088.00 and authorized the use of such federal funds received through the ARPA and the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund via court order 2021-0573.

The final guidance (ARPA Final Rule) issued by the U.S. Department of the Treasury (“Treasury”), effective April 1, 2022, affirms the objectives stated in the Interim Final Rule that the allocation of ARPA Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (ARPA CSLFRF) Grant Funds include

improving access to stable, affordable housing through interventions that improve housing security. The ARPA Final Rule provides that the following are eligible costs: responses to the negative economic impacts of the pandemic include "rent, mortgage, or utility assistance and counseling and legal aid to prevent homelessness." 31 CFR §4360. This includes housing stability services that enable eligible households to maintain or obtain housing, such as housing counseling, fair housing counseling, case management related to housing stability, outreach to households at risk of eviction or promotion of housing support programs, housing related services for survivors of domestic abuse or human trafficking, and specialized services for individuals with disabilities, vulnerabilities and seniors that support their ability to access or maintain housing.

The City of Dallas ("City") has a long-standing commitment to protect the health and safety of the homeless and housing insecure throughout the City through the provision of medical services, supportive services, job training, temporary and permanent housing, and other emergent services. The County intends to utilize a portion of its allocation to fund regional projects and programs that assist disadvantaged and underserved communities through housing support and infrastructure improvements. The City and the County desire to continue collaborating to address the needs of the homeless and housing insecure to expand access to supportive services, and provide additional emergency, transitional or affordable housing throughout the City and County. As authorized by Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code, the Interlocal Cooperation Act (the "Act"), the City and the County seek to enter into a regional partnership to leverage ARPA CSLFRF Grant Funds and its respective resources to jointly operate facilities in the City to improve housing security and support durable and sustainable homeownership.

On June 22, 2022, the City Council authorized the acceptance of \$10,000,000.00 from Dallas County to provide for the creation and maintenance of supportive housing, improving housing security, and providing supportive services to the homeless.

The County initially directed City staff to seek authorization for four separate projects not to exceed \$2,500,000.00 each via an interlocal agreement and four subrecipient grant agreements - one agreement per \$2,500,000.00 project - to be located in each county commissioner district. However, after September 19, 2023, the Dallas County Commissioners Court has since redirected City staff to seek separate approval of potential projects via subrecipient agreement instead of by an interlocal agreement. At this time, the City has provided sufficient detail for the County to consider authorization of \$2,500,000.00 for one project located at 4150 Independence Drive (city-owned real property).

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (COUNCIL, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS)

On May 12, 2022, the Citizen Homelessness Commission was briefed on this proposed regional partnership between the City and the County by the Office of Homeless Solutions.

The Homeless and Housing Solutions Committee was briefed on this proposed regional partnership between the City and the County by the Office of Homeless Solutions on May 23, 2022.

On June 2, 2022, the Dallas Area Partnership was briefed on this proposed regional partnership between the City and the County by the Office of Homeless Solutions.

On June 22, 2022, the City Council authorized the acceptance of 10 million (\$10,000,000.00) from Dallas County to provide the creation and maintenance of supportive housing, improving housing security, and providing supportive services to the homeless and housing insecure for youth (18-24), including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, and asexual/agender (“LGBTQIA+”) youth and the larger unsheltered and/or unstably housed population at or below 30 percent Area Median Income (collectively, the “Target Populations”), within the City of Dallas and Dallas County (the “public purpose”) by Resolution No. 22-1011.

The Homeless and Housing Solutions Committee was briefed on the Dallas City and County Partnership for supportive housing and/or services update, formerly presented as an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) for \$10,000,000.00 from Dallas County, Texas on October 23, 2023.

[The City Council was briefed by memorandum regarding this matter on December 8, 2023. <https://cityofdallas.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=12520035&GUID=281B2B68-2441-49A8-ABE9-D91E394637E2>](https://cityofdallas.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=12520035&GUID=281B2B68-2441-49A8-ABE9-D91E394637E2)

FISCAL INFORMATION

Fund	FY 2024	FY 2025	Future Years
FY22 Dallas County ARPA Grant Funds	\$2,500,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00