



DeWight Dopslauf, C.P.M., CPPO
Harris County Purchasing Agent

September 06, 2024

Commissioners Court
Harris County, Texas

RE: Job No. 200333

Members of Commissioners Court:

Please approve the attached Order(s) authorizing the County Judge to execute the attached Third Amendment to the Agreement(s) for the following:

Description: Monitoring and Evaluation of the Short-and-Long term Casual Impacts of Programs and Interventions to be funded by the Harris County Early Childhood Impact Fund

Vendor(s): The RAND Corporation dba The RAND Policy Research Corporation

Amount: \$1,195,583 previously approved funds for the term 02/21/2023 - 02/20/2026
0 additional funds for the extended term 02/21/2026 - 09/30/2026
\$1,195,583

Reviewed By: • Harris County Purchasing • Economic Equity and Opportunity

The Third Amendment extends the term, updates the budget in the Best and Final Offer (Exhibit B), and updates the Scope of Work (Exhibit C) to the Agreement(s) with no increase in the total contract amount.

Sincerely,

DeWight Dopslauf
Purchasing Agent

JW
Attachment(s)
cc: Vendor(s)

FOR INCLUSION ON COMMISSIONERS COURT AGENDA SEPTEMBER 19, 2024



THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN HARRIS COUNTY AND THE RAND CORPORATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF HARRIS §

This Third Amendment to the Agreement is made and entered into by and between Harris County (the “County”), a body corporate and politic under the laws of the State of Texas, acting by and through the Department of Economic Equity and Opportunity (the “Department”), and The RAND Corporation dba The RAND Policy Research Corporation (“Contractor”), a California nonprofit corporation. The County and Contractor are referred to herein collectively as the “Parties” and individually as a “Party.”

Recitals

On February 21, 2023, the County and Contractor entered into an Agreement (the “Master Agreement”) to monitor and provide scientifically rigorous evaluation of the short-and-long-term causal impacts of funded initiatives for the Harris County Early Childhood Impact Fund (the “Services”).

On October 31, 2023, the County and Contractor amended the Master Agreement for the first time (the “First Amendment”) to change the schedule of distribution of funds for monitoring and evaluation of the short-and-long term casual impacts of programs and interventions to be funded by the Early Childhood Impact Fund for the period of February 21, 2023- February 20, 2026, with no increase in the total contract amount.

On January 30, 2024, the County and Contractor amended the Master Agreement for the second time (the “Second Amendment”) to rename the Department from the Office of County Administration to the Department of Economic Equity and Opportunity, to reflect County’s internal reorganization, such that “Department” references the Department of Economic Equity and Opportunity.

The Parties now desire to amend the Master Agreement for the third time (the “Third Amendment”) to extend the term of the Agreement, update the budget in the Best and Final Offer (Exhibit B), and update the Scope of Work (Exhibit C), with no change in the total contract amount.

Contractor warrants and represents that it is willing and capable of providing the services.

Terms

1) CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION

This Third Amendment shall be governed by the Master Agreement, the First Amendment, and the Second Amendment, which are incorporated by reference as though fully set forth word-for-word.

2) TERM

The Term of the Master Agreement is hereby amended to extend until September 30, 2026.

3) BEST AND FINAL OFFER – EXHIBIT B

The budget in the Best and Final Offer (Exhibit B) of the Master Agreement is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the budget attached hereto as Exhibit B and incorporated herein by reference.

4) STATEMENT OF WORK – EXHIBIT C

The Statement of Work (Exhibit C) of the Master Agreement is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the Statement of Work attached hereto as Exhibit C and incorporated herein by reference.

5) ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

In the event of any conflict between the terms and provisions of this Third Amendment, or any portion thereof, and the terms and provisions of any other part or portion of the Master Agreement, the First Amendment, or the Second Amendment, this Third Amendment shall control.


All other terms and provisions of the Master Agreement, the First Amendment, and the Second Amendment shall remain in full force and effect as originally written and subsequently amended.

4) EXECUTION, MULTIPLE COUNTERPARTS

This Third Amendment may be executed in several counterparts. Each counterpart is deemed an original. All counterparts together constitute one and the same instrument. Each Party warrants that the undersigned is a duly authorized representative with the power to execute this Third Amendment.

[EXECUTION PAGE FOLLOWS]

THE RAND CORPORATION dba
THE RAND POLICY RESEARCH
CORPORATION

By: 
Name: Emily Palumbo
Title: Director of Contracts and Grants
Date: [Sep-04-2024](#)

HARRIS COUNTY

By: _____
LINA HIDALGO
COUNTY JUDGE

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Christian D. Menefee
COUNTY ATTORNEY

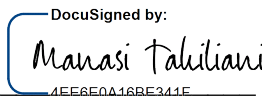
By: 
Manasi Tahiliani
Assistant County Attorney
C.A. File 24GEN2190

EXHIBIT B

Updated budget in Best and Final Offer

Item No. 1: Detailed and Itemized List of Proposed Services - Monitoring and Evaluation of Causal Impacts of Early Childhood Programs and Initiatives				
	YEAR 1 02/21/2023-02/20/2024	YEAR 2 02/21/2024-02/20/2025	YEAR 3 02/21/2025-09/30/2026	Total
Labor	Cost	Cost	Cost	
Personnel	\$ 282,104	\$ 400,358	\$ 459,981	\$ 1,142,443
Total Labor	\$ 282,104	\$ 400,358	\$ 459,981	\$ 1,142,443
Incentives for Families/Participants	\$ 2,644	\$ 7,091	\$ -	\$ 9,735
Letter Agreement for an external Reviewer	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Publications for a RAND Report	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,694	\$ 25,694
Travel	\$ 4,543	\$ 6,084	\$ 6,084	\$ 16,711
Total Non Labor	\$ 7,187	\$ 13,175	\$ 32,778	\$ 53,140
Total Price	\$ 289,291	\$ 413,533	\$ 492,759	\$ 1,195,583

EXHIBIT C

Updated Statement of Work (“SOW”)

Date	Services Performed By:	Services Performed For:
9/21/2023	RAND Corporation 1776 Main Street P.O. Box 2138 Santa Monica,	Harris County Office of County Administration – Early Childhood Initiatives 1001 Preston Ave. Suite 630 Houston, TX 77002

Project Period

Services are expected to commence on February 21, 2023 and shall continue through September 30, 2026.

Project Organization and Resources

Key resources include those listed in RFP response Section 5: Organization & Project Methodology

Organization: RAND Corporation

Point of Contact: Dr. Elaine Wang, Policy Researcher/Principal Investigator, RAND Corporation

Supporting Key Staff/Team:

- Dr. Jill Cannon, Co-Principal Investigator, RAND Corporation
- Dr. Jonathan Schweig, Co-Principal Investigator, RAND Corporation
- Karen Christianson, Project Manager and Qualitative Analyst, RAND Corporation
- Ms. Adaeze Ibeanu, Research Assistant, RAND Corporation

Partners: The RAND Corporation does not plan on partnering with other organizations during their contract period with Harris County.

Project Budget: \$1,195,583 for Early Childhood Impact Fund portfolio evaluation.

Program Activities and Deliverables

The RAND Corporation shall provide the following Activities and Deliverable(s):

Activities:

The RAND Corporation will conduct an evaluation of the entire Early Childhood Impact Fund portfolio to understand and inform the impact of early childhood initiatives in Harris County.

1. Project Management
 - a. Conduct kickoff meeting with Harris County – within 30 days of Purchase Order Issuance
2. Evaluation Design and Instrumentation
 - a. Develop detailed evaluation plan for final approval by Harris County – within 6 months (180 days) of Purchase Order Issuance
 - b. Design or purchase instruments needed to conduct evaluation plan – within 6 months of Purchase Order Issuance
3. Evaluation Implementation
 - a. Implement Evaluation Plan as articulated in the evaluation plan, including, but not limited to the following – within 7 months of Purchase Order Issuance and ongoing:
 - i. Recruiting and training data collectors
 - ii. Performing data collection
 - iii. Completing Institutional Review Boards (IRB) approval as necessary
4. Implementation Monitoring
 - a. Prepare and submit monthly progress updates within 30 days of Purchase Order Issuance and ongoing monthly
 - b. Prepare and submit quarterly progress memos within 3 months (90 days) of Purchase Order Issuance and ongoing quarterly
 - c. Prepare and present on interim findings – within 18 months of Purchase Order Issuance
 - d. Prepare, peer-review and publish final report – within 42 months of Purchase Order Issuance
 - e. Provide briefings to Harris County official and other stakeholders – as requested, up to 2 briefings annually

Deliverables:

1. Deliverable 1: Evaluation Plan
 - a. Description: A detailed document that explains:
 - i. How program effectiveness will be determined
 - ii. What metrics will be tracked
 - iii. How metrics will be tracked
 - iv. Final Key Performance Indicators/evaluation outcomes
 - v. A plan to measure both ECIF program impact and outreach impact
2. Deliverable 2: Interim Presentation
 - a. Description: Using data collected from programs, the presentation will include:
 - i. Recommendations for future phases of the evaluation
 - ii. Modifications to data collection methods, protocols or reporting strategies
 - iii. Support for service providers on how to improve their program and/or implementation
3. Deliverable 3: Final Presentation/Webinars

- a. Description: findings from final report to Harris County, additional stakeholders, community leaders and other key audience through at least one in-person presentation, as well as one or more webinars
4. Deliverable: Final Report
 - a. Descriptions: a publicly available final report that describes all evaluation activities and findings

Reporting Requirements

RAND Corporation will submit:

- Evaluation Plan
- Interim Presentation
- Final Presentation/Webinars
- Final Report

RAND Corporation Monthly Reporting Requirements will include:

- Monthly Progress Updates

RAND Corporation Quarterly Reporting Requirements will include:

- Quarterly Progress Memos

Final Reporting Requirements will include:

- Final Presentation/Webinars
- Final Report

Contractor Responsibilities

Abide by the ARPA Equity Framework and strive to incorporate equity considerations throughout the project.

Contractor agrees to participate in and support third-party evaluation efforts, if applicable.

Any changes to this Scope of Services shall be agreed upon by Harris County.

Compliance and Monitoring

Funds allocated by Harris County are subject to County governing rules across prime recipients, subrecipients, direct grantees and contracted vendors.

Close Out

RAND Corporation shall have fulfilled its obligations when the following occurs:

- RAND Corporation accomplishes the Activities described within this SOW, including delivery to Client of all materials and reports listed herein, and the Client accepts such activities and materials without unreasonable objections.

Milestone Payment Schedule

Project Year (Months Since Award 03/23)	Milestone/Deliverable	Target Month	Target Calendar Month	Payment Amounts
1 (Months 1-12)	Project Kickoff Meeting with Harris County	By End of Month 1	By End of Mar 2023	99,631
1	DELIVERABLE: Submission of Evaluation Plan	By End of Month 6	By End of Sep 2023	99,631
1	Quarterly Report	By End of Month 9	By End of Dec 2023	99,631
1	Completion of Initial Implementation Evaluation Data Collection	By End of Month 12	By End of Mar 2024	99,631
2 (Months 13-24)	Quarterly Report	By End of Month 15	By End of Jun 2024	99,631
2	DELIVERABLE: Briefing on preliminary/interim findings	By End of Month 18	By End of Sep 2024	99,631
2	Annual Progress Report	By End of Month 24	By End of Mar 2025	99,631
3 (Months 25-36)	Quarterly Report	By End of Month 27	By End of Jun 2025	99,631
3	Quarterly Report	By End of Month 30	By End of Sep 2025	99,631
3	Completion of all Data Collection	By End of Month 34	By End of Jan 2026	99,631
4 (Months 37-42)	DELIVERABLE: Briefing to Harris County Commissioners Court on final report findings	By End of Month 40	By end of Jul 2026	99,631
4	DELIVERABLE: Publication of Final Report	By End of Month 42	By end of Sep 2026	99,642

ORDER OF COMMISSIONERS COURT
Authorizing execution of an amendment to an agreement

The Commissioners Court of Harris County, Texas, convened at a meeting of said Court at the Harris County Administration Building in the City of Houston, Texas, on the ____ day of _____, 2024 with all members present except _____.

A quorum was present. Among other business, the following was transacted:

ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH THE RAND CORPORATION

Commissioner _____ introduced an order and moved that Commissioners Court adopt the order. Commissioner _____ seconded the motion for adoption of the order. The motion, carrying with it the adoption of the order, prevailed by the following vote:

Vote of the Court	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Judge Hidalgo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. Ellis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. Garcia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. Ramsey, P.E.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. Briones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The County Judge thereupon announced that the motion had duly and lawfully carried and that the order had been duly and lawfully adopted. The order adopted follows:

IT IS ORDERED that County Judge Lina Hidalgo be, and she is hereby authorized to execute, for and on behalf of Harris County, the Third Amendment to the Agreement with The Rand Corporation to extend the term of the Master Agreement, update the budget in the Best and Final Offer (Exhibit B), and update the Scope of Work (Exhibit C). The Third Amendment is incorporated herein as though fully set forth word-for-word.

All Harris County officials and employees are authorized to do any and all things necessary or convenient to accomplish the purposes of this order.