



Legislation Text

File #: 21-2771, Version: 1

To: Harris County Commissioners Court

Through: David Berry, Executive Director, Budget Management Department

Prepared By: Leah Barton, Senior Director, Budget Management Department

Subject: COVID: Rental Assistance Expansion

Project ID (If applicable):

Purpose and Request:

Request by Budget Management for approval of contracts with BakerRipley and Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston for rental assistance application processing and payment, funded by additional allocations to the US Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance Program via the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Background and Discussion:

Since January, the Houston-Harris County Rental Assistance Program, implemented in collaboration with the City of Houston, has assisted over 24,000 households struggling with impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) has made additional funding available under similar program guidelines. With the first 40% of these Emergency Rental Assistance Program 2 (ERAP 2) funds, Harris County seeks to continue to support residents experiencing housing insecurity, providing payment for past-due and future rent to help families remain stably housed.

Fiscal Impact: Funds will be provided from the US Treasury ERAP 2 funds.

Fiscal Summary			
Expenditures	FY 20-21	FY 21-22 Projected	Future Years Projected [3 additional years]
Service Impacted: Rental processing and payment			
BakerRipley		\$12,000,000	
Catholic Charities		\$12,000,000	
Total Expenditures		\$24,000,000	
Funding Sources			
US Treasury Emergency		\$24,000,000	
Total Sources		\$24,000,000	

Alternatives:

Ongoing high levels of eviction place families at increased risk of homelessness, COVID-19, and other adverse impacts.

Alignment with Strategic Objective:

Aligned with Strategic Objectives of recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and our County-wide Housing goals.

Attachments: Contracts to follow.