



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 21-4893, **Version:** 1

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**Department:** County Administration

**Department Head/Elected Official:** David Berry, County Administrator

**Regular or Supplemental RCA:**

- ☒ Regular RCA  
☐ Supplemental RCA

**Type of Request:** Contract - Amendment

**Project ID (if applicable):** pending

**Vendor/Entity Legal Name (if applicable):** BakerRipley; Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

**MWDBE Participation (if applicable):** N/A

**Request Summary (Agenda Caption):**

Request by the Office of County Administration for approval of an amendment to the contracts with BakerRipley in the additional amount of \$21.4M and Catholic Charities in the additional amount of \$21M for the Houston-Harris County Emergency Rental Assistance Program.

**Background and Discussion:**

In January 2021, the U.S. Treasury Department established the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program to provide funding to state and local governments to assist eligible renter households impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, funded via the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021. Commissioners Court established the 2021 Houston-Harris County Emergency Rental Assistance Program on February 9, 2021, in collaboration with the City of Houston. The program administrators are BakerRipley, Catholic Charities, and the Alliance.

Additional funding was allocated to the ERA program via the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), and subsequently allocated to state and local governments. Harris County received the first 40% of allocated funding in May and received the remaining 60% in early September.

**Expected Impact:**

The contract amendments will provide an additional \$40M in rental assistance to continue to support eligible Harris County tenants experiencing housing insecurity due to COVID-19. The amendments also include \$1.4M for BakerRipley for application processing and payment, technology, and recoupment processing, and \$1M for Catholic Charities for application processing and payment. Funding for this amendment will be fully provided by the U.S. Dept. of the Treasury ARPA ERA2 Funds.

Alternative Options: N/A

**Alignment with Goal(s):**

- ☐ Justice and Safety  
☒ Economic Opportunity  
☐ Housing  
☐ Public Health  
  
☐ Transportation  
☐ Flooding  
☐ Environment  
☐ Governance and Customer Service

**Prior Court Action (if any):**

2/9/21 [Item #250], Program Approval and Contract Award to BakerRipley and Catholic Charities

3/9/21 [Item #2], Approval of ERAP Navigator Agency Contracts

5/25/21 [Item #6], Amendment of BakerRipley ERA1 Contract

6/8/21 [Item #8], Approval of ERA2 Contracts with BakerRipley and Catholic Charities

6/8/21 [Item #9], Approval of ERA2 Contract with The Alliance

**Location:**

Address (if applicable list below):

- ☒ Countywide  
☐ Precinct 1  
☐ Precinct 2  
  
☐ Precinct 3  
☐ Precinct 4

**Fiscal and Personnel Summary**

Service Name	2021 Emergency Rental Assistance	FY 21-22	Estimates	
			FY 22	Next 3 FYs
<b>Incremental Expenditures</b>				
Labor Expenditures		-	-	-
Non-Labor Expenditures		42413.5K	-	-
<b>Total Incremental Expenditures</b>		<b>42413.5K</b>	-	-
<b>Funding Sources</b> (General Fund, PIC Fund, Debt or CP, Grants, or Other - Please Specify)				
Existing Budget	Other-ARPA ERA	42413.5K	-	-

	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Total Current Budget		42413.5K	-	-
Additional Budget Requested	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Total Additional Budget Requested	-	-	-	-
Total Funding Sources		42413.5K	-	-
<b>Personnel</b> (Fill out section only if requesting new PCNs)				
Current Position Count for Service	-	-	-	-
Additional Positions Requested	-	-	-	-
Total Personnel	-	-	-	-

**Anticipated Implementation Date:** September 14, 2021

**Emergency/Disaster Recovery Note:**

- ☐ Not an emergency, disaster recovery, or COVID-19 related item
- ☐ Emergency Item
- ☒ COVID-19 related Item
- ☐ Disaster Recovery related Item

**Contact(s) name, title, department:**

Leah Barton, Managing Director, Office of County Administration  
Janet Gonzalez, Sr. Manager, Office of Management and Budget

**Attachments (if applicable):**

Contract amendments to follow