



Legislation Text

File #: 21-6576, **Version:** 1

Department: Justice Administration Department

Department Head/Elected Official: Dr. Ana Yáñez Correa, Interim Director

Regular or Supplemental RCA: Regular RCA

Type of Request: Lease Agreement

Project ID (if applicable): N/A

Vendor/Entity Legal Name (if applicable): N/A

MWDBE Participation (if applicable): N/A

Request Summary (Agenda Caption):

Request by the Justice Administration Department for approval of an amendment to an agreement with the Harris County Sports and Convention Corporation to exercise the County's option to extend the lease at the NRG Arena for jury assembly and voir dire purposes through February 6, 2022 and from April 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022.

Background and Discussion:

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, beginning July 6, 2020, Harris County entered into a lease agreement with NRG to use the Arena for jury assembly operations and voir dire. The current lease agreement will expire on December 20th. Since Harris County is currently at Threat Level 2 (significant), extending the lease at NRG will allow jury operations and voir dire to continue to be conducted safely incorporating social distancing and necessary sanitation protocols. Please note from February 7th through March 31, 2022, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo will be held at NRG Arena and therefore jury operations will not operate at NRG Arena during that time.

Expected Impact:

Extending the agreement will enable jury assembly operations and voir dire to continue uninterrupted with at least 7 jury panels per day. An additional \$3,911,955 for the extension of the agreement is requested for January 3 - February 6, 2022 and April 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022.

Alternative Options:

The agreement would expire and jury operations would return to the Jury Assembly Building. Capacity would be significantly reduced from NRG due to insufficient space to accommodate social distancing in the jury assembly rooms and courtrooms, negatively impacting the criminal case backlog.

Alignment with Goal(s):

Justice and Safety

Economic Opportunity

- _ Housing
- _ Public Health
- _ Transportation
- _ Flooding
- _ Environment
- _ Governance and Customer Service

Prior Court Action (if any):

Date	Agenda Item #	Action Taken
12.15.20	l.1.h.2	Approved amendment to the agreement
1.5.21	Covid-19 -9	Approved amendment to the agreement
7.20.21	255	Approved amendment to the agreement
8.24.21	192	Approved amendment to the agreement

Location:

Address (if applicable): 1 NRG Pkwy, Houston, TX 77054

Precinct(s): Countywide

Fiscal and Personnel Summary			
Service Name			
	FY 21-22	FY 22	Next 3 FYs
Incremental Expenditures (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)			
Labor Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Non-Labor Expenditures	\$821,340	\$3,090,615	\$
Total Incremental Expenditures	\$821,340	\$3,090,615	\$
Funding Sources (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)			
Existing Budget			
1030 - Covid Response and Recovery	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Total Current Budget	\$	\$	\$
Additional Budget Requested			
1030 - Covid Response and Recovery	\$821,340	\$3,090,615	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Total Additional Budget Requested	\$821,340	\$3,090,615	\$
Total Funding Sources	\$821,340	\$3,090,615	\$
Personnel (Fill out section only if requesting new PCNs)			
Current Position Count for Service	-	-	-

Additional Positions Requested	-	-	-
Total Personnel	-	-	-

Anticipated Implementation Date: January 1, 2022

Emergency/Disaster Recovery Note: COVID-19 related item

Contact(s) name, title, department: Stephanie Armand, Program & Special Projects Administrator, Justice Administration

Attachments (if applicable): Seventh Amendment to the Agreement between Harris County and Harris County Sports and Convention Corporation