



Legislation Text

File #: 23-0430, **Version:** 1

Department: Management and Budget

Department Head/Elected Official: Daniel Ramos, Executive Director

Regular or Supplemental RCA: Regular RCA

Type of Request: Grant

Project ID (if applicable): N/A

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

MWDBE Contracted Goal (if applicable): N/A

MWDBE Current Participation (if applicable): N/A

Justification for 0% MWDBE Participation Goal: N/A - Goal not applicable to request

Request Summary (Agenda Caption):

Request by the Office of Management and Budget for approval of a grant-funded position to provide program management for the Houston-Harris County Emergency Rental Assistance Program, using Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA2) funds effective February 11, 2023.

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. Additional funding was allocated to the ERA program via the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA-ERA2) and subsequently allocated to state and local governments. To date, the Houston-Harris County Emergency Rental Assistance Program has provided more than \$315 million in rental assistance to over 76,000 households impacted by COVID-19.

In May 2022, a temporary Rental Assistance Program Manager position was approved in the Office of County Administration, via the existing contract with A-1 Staffing. Due to the ongoing need for ERA program management at the County, this position will move to a full-time, grant-funded position under the Office of Management and Budget. The position will continue the work of managing program vendors, compliance, reporting, and overall program design and implementation.

Expected Impact:

This position will help ensure that the Houston-Harris County Emergency Rental Assistance Program serves county residents in an efficient manner and in accordance with compliance and reporting requirements. The total expense in FY23 will be \$75k, fully funded by ERA2 grant funds.

Alternative Options: Failure to fund program management resources would cause significant strain on current staff and potentially compromise quality of program delivery and compliance.

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
10/25/22		\$1.354 million accepted.

Location:

Address (if applicable):

Precinct(s): Countywide

Fiscal and Personnel Summary			
Service Name	Emergency Rental Assistance		
	FY 23	FY 24	Next 3 FYs
Incremental Expenditures (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)			
Labor Expenditures	\$75,281	\$	\$
Non-Labor Expenditures	\$	\$	\$
Total Incremental Expenditures	\$75,281	\$	\$
Funding Sources (do NOT write values in thousands or millions)			
Existing Budget			
Grant	\$75,281	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Total Current Budget	\$	\$	\$
Additional Budget Requested			
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Choose an item.	\$	\$	\$
Total Additional Budget Requested	\$	\$	\$

Total Funding Sources	\$75,281	\$	\$
Personnel (Fill out section only if requesting new PCNs)			
Current Position Count for Service	-	-	-
Additional Positions Requested	1	-	-
Total Personnel	1	-	-

Anticipated Court Date: January 31, 2023

Anticipated Implementation Date (if different from Court date): February 11, 2023

Emergency/Disaster Recovery Note: COVID-19 related item

Contact(s) name, title, department: Janet Gonzalez, Director of Budget and Performance, Office of Management and Budget

Attachments (if applicable): 3441