



City of Austin

Recommendation for Action

File #: 24-5584, **Agenda Item #:** 32.

9/12/2024

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 16 to the agreement with Ending Community Homelessness Coalition, Inc. to provide expanded training, technical assistance, process improvement, and additional work related to promoting equity in the homelessness response system; and to add \$130,000 to the remaining extension option, and two 12-month extension options each in an amount not to exceed \$780,000, for a revised total agreement amount not to exceed \$5,602,051.

Lead Department

Homeless Strategy Office.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$780,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Homeless Strategy Office Operating Budget.

Prior Council Action:

August 31, 2023 - Council approved the negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 15 to an agreement with Ending Community Homelessness Coalition, Inc. on consent without objection.

December 8, 2022 - Council approved the negotiation and execution of Amendment No. 14 to an agreement with Ending Community Homelessness Coalition, Inc. on an 11-0 vote.

For More Information:

David Gray, Homeless Strategy Officer, 512-972-7836; Kelechukwu Anyanwu Jr, Program Manager III, 512-972-5136; Estella Kirscht, Administrative Specialist, 512-972-4423.

Additional Backup Information:

Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO) is an Austin-based nonprofit that provides coordination, technical assistance, and support to homelessness providers. ECHO also serves as the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) lead for the Austin/Travis County Continuum of Care (CoC). HMIS is a centralized, person-level database used by community providers to connect people with the services and resources they need to end their homelessness.

Approval of this item will authorize Amendment No. 16 to add \$130,000 and two 12-month extension options starting October 1, 2024, to the ECHO Program agreement with ECHO. This agreement will support TX-503 CoC, coordinate services across the local homeless response network, provide technical assistance to organizations in the CoC's geographic area, working collaboratively with the City's Homeless Strategy Office to develop system strategies, model system needs, analyze HMIS data and trends, and increase the federal CoC investiture into the local community. If authorization of Amendment No. 16 is not approved, then it will limit the provision of support, training, and technical assistance to other City-funded homelessness programs.

Amendment No. 15 exercised the ninth extension option in the amount of \$650,000 for the period of October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024.

Amendment No. 14 modified work exhibits and added funds in the amount \$406,028 for the period of October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023.

Amendment No. 13 exercised the eighth extension option in the amount of \$243,972 for the period of October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023.

Amendment No. 12 exercised the seventh extension option in the amount of \$243,972 for the period of October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022.

Amendment No. 11 exercised the sixth extension option in the amount of \$243,972 for the period of October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021.

Amendment No. 10 exercised the fifth extension option in the amount of \$243,972 for the period of October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020.

Amendment No. 9 exercised the fourth extension option in the amount of \$243,972 for the period of October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019.

Amendment No. 8 modified work exhibits and added funds in the amount \$5,951 for the period of October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018.

Amendment No. 7 exercised the third extension option in the amount of \$250,542 for the period of October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018.

Amendment No. 6 added funds in the amount \$39,479 for the period of October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017.

Amendment No. 5 added funds in the amount \$5,351 for the period of October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017.

Amendment No. 4 exercised the second extension option in the amount of \$232,670 for the period of October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017.

Amendment No. 3 added funds in the amount of \$13,170 for the period of October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2017.

Amendment No. 2 exercised the first extension option in the amount of \$219,500 for the period of October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016.

Amendment No. 1 added funds in the amount of \$60,000 for the period of October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015.

The original agreement was approved for an initial 12-month term ending on September 30, 2015, for \$159,500 with five 12-month extension options each in an amount to exceed \$159,500, for a total agreement amount not to exceed \$957,000.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requires each funding application be submitted as a part of a single community-wide or regional plan. ECHO is the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's designated Continuum of Care for Austin and Travis County. Continuum of Care are organized around two main priorities: coordinating the housing and service systems in a community and applying for funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's competitive McKinney-Vento Act/HEARTH Act programs. Coordinated assessment is a requirement by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Continuum of Care and Emergency Solutions Grant funding. The City's Housing and the Austin Public Health Departments administer Emergency Solutions Grant funding.

