

City of Austin



Legislation Text

File #: 24-4985, **Version:** 1

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an amendment to extend an agreement with Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, Inc. for eviction representation and outreach services to extend the term of the agreement through September 30, 2025, and to increase the agreement amount by \$275,000, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$495,000.

Lead Department

Austin Housing Finance Corporation.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$275,000 is in the Housing Department's Capital Budget.

For More Information:

Mandy DeMayo, Treasurer, Austin Housing Finance Corporation, 512-974-1091.

Additional Backup Information:

To address an anticipated increase in eviction filings for tenants after COVID-19-related eviction prevention measures expired in 2021, the City signed a one-year agreement with Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, Inc. to provide emergency eviction counseling and prevention services. This service aided a total of 210 unduplicated households with legal assistance and representation related to eviction during the initial year in 2022.

Understanding the urgency to address this important Council priority and community need in Fiscal Year 2023, the Housing and Planning Department funded the Representation Matters: Eviction Representation program, allocating \$220,000 for eviction representation services. Following a competitive solicitation process, staff recommended negotiating and executing an agreement with Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, Inc. in the amount of \$220,000 to provide eviction representation services.

This service will continue aid to those who are most vulnerable to eviction without legal assistance and representation.