



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**

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**Agenda Item Number:** 17

**Agenda Date:** June 13, 2024

**In Control:** City Council A Session

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**DEPARTMENT:** Health Department

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Claude Jacob

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

CDC Immunization and Vaccines for Children Program and Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems Grant

**SUMMARY:**

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of funds upon award in an amount up to \$3,093,451.00 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Office of Grant Services (OGS), for the Immunization and Vaccines for Children Program, and authorizes a program budget and existing personnel complement of 30 full-time positions from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. There is no fiscal impact to the City's General Fund in the form of a cash match.

This ordinance also authorizes the addition of one position to the personnel complement for the CDC Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems Grant to increase the personnel complement from 49 to 50 full-time positions from July 1, 2024 through November 30, 2027.

Furthermore, this ordinance authorizes the Director of the City of San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) to initiate, negotiate, and execute any and all necessary documents and a grant contract to effectuate the acceptance of the referenced grant, and to execute contract amendments pertaining to this contract, to include: a) carry-over funds, when ascertained and

approved by the funding agency through a revised notice of award; b) line item budget revisions authorized by the funding agency; c) modifications to the performance measures authorized by the funding agency and listed in the contract so long as the terms of the amendment stay within the general parameters of the intent of the grant; d) no cost extensions; e) amendments which will provide supplemental grant funds to the grant by the funding agency in an amount up to 20% of the total amount awarded to the grant; f) reimbursement increases of administrative funds for each participant served; g) amendments funding one time equipment purchases or defined program services; and h) changes in regulations mandated by the funding agency.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The City of San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health), administers the Immunizations and Vaccines for Children Program, funded by the CDC. The program works to reduce illnesses by maximizing the number of children immunized against vaccine preventable diseases, such as measles, rubella, mumps, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, Haemophilus influenza type b, varicella, pneumonia, hepatitis A & B, rotavirus, human papillomavirus (HPV), influenza, and meningitis. The program has two components: the Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program and the 317 Immunization Program (Section 317 Program).

For over 20 years, Metro Health has received funding from the CDC to administer the Immunizations and Vaccines for Children Program. Most recently, on January 25, 2024, City Council authorized Ordinance 2024-01-25-0031, which approved the acceptance of supplemental funds in the amount of \$2,752,559.00 for the term ending December 31, 2024, as well as a revised program budget and personnel complement of 30 full-time positions. Between August 30, 2023 through January 3, 2024, Metro Health received notice of awards totaling \$3,040,532.00.

Metro Health now requests City Council authorize the acceptance of funds upon award in an amount up to \$3,093,451.00 from the CDC. These funds will support the continuation of the Immunizations and Vaccines for Children Program, as well as an existing personnel complement of 30 full-time positions, from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

On December 15, 2022, through Ordinance 2022-12-15-0969, City Council authorized the acceptance of a five-year grant from the CDC through the Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems Grant in an amount up to \$25,534,666.00 and a personnel complement of 46 full-time positions. The FY 2024 Annual Consolidated Operating Budget Ordinance (2023-09-14-0623) authorized three (3) additional positions on September 14, 2023. Metro Health now requests authorization to transition the Sanitarian I position currently funded through the Public Health Workforce Grant to the Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems Grant. The Public Health Workforce Grant will end on June 30, 2024. The Sanitarian I position conducts food safety inspections at retail food establishments, schools, daycares, convenience stores, mobile food vendors, temporary food establishments, foster care inspections, and swimming pool inspections. This position also conducts mosquito surveillance.

Metro Health now requests City Council authorize an increase to the personnel complement for the Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems Grant to

increase the personnel complement to 50 full-time positions from July 1, 2024 through November 30, 2027.

### **ISSUE:**

Metro Health requests City Council authorize the acceptance of funds upon award from the CDC in the amount up to \$3,093,451.00. This request is for the annual renewal of the Immunizations and Vaccines for Children Program grant for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. Funding will support the continuation of the program, as well as an existing personnel complement of 30 full-time positions. Metro Health has received this funding from the CDC for over 20 years to support public health immunization programming and vaccine delivery in Bexar County. The immunization of children to prevent illnesses like pertussis, measles, rubella, mumps, and other vaccine preventable diseases, continues to be an important health strategy.

This ordinance will allow Metro Health to continue the important work of providing enhanced education, outreach, technical support, immunizations, disease surveillance, adult/adolescent health activities, immunization registry activities and vaccine distribution services.

Additionally, this request supports the transition of one full-time position from the Public Health Workforce Grant, ending June 30, 2024, to the Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems Grant from July 1, 2024 through November 30, 2027, increasing the personnel complement from 49 to 50 full-time positions.

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

The funding provided through the Immunizations and Vaccines for Children Program grant supports vital immunization services for children. Should City Council choose not to approve the acceptance of funding, funds will be redistributed to other grantees, limiting opportunities to provide immunization services to San Antonio residents, particularly children. Should City Council not authorize the increase to the personnel complement under the CDC Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems Grant, Metro Health will need to identify another funding source to support ongoing services provided by the existing full-time position beyond June 30, 2024.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of funds in an amount up to \$3,093,451.00 from the CDC for the Immunization and Vaccines for Children Program from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

This ordinance also authorizes a program budget and an existing personnel complement, which supports funding for 30 full-time positions.

Additionally, this ordinance authorizes an increase to the personnel complement for the CDC Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems Grant from 49 to 50 full-time positions from July 1, 2024 through November 30, 2027.

There is no fiscal impact to the City's General Fund in the form of a cash match for both grants.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval.