



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 21

Agenda Date: August 8, 2024

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Health Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Claude Jacob

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Accepting funds from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for laboratory support in an amount up to \$200,000.00 for a period ending September 26, 2025.

SUMMARY:

The City of San Antonio Metropolitan Health District's (Metro Health) laboratory services branch provides analytical support for various public health programs. The laboratory is host to the BioWatch Program and provides the infrastructure support for testing activities under the Metro Health Laboratory Services Director.

This ordinance approves the acceptance of funds from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 and execution of documents for laboratory infrastructure support for the Metro Health's BioWatch program for the budget period ending September 26, 2025. Of the \$200,000.00, \$100,000.00 is for FY 2024 and \$100,000.00 is for FY 2025. There is no fiscal impact to the City's General Fund in the form of a cash match.

Additionally, this ordinance authorizes the Director of Metro Health to execute Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) that enhance program services with no exchange of funds associated with this grant-funded project, including Data Use Agreements and Business Associate Agreements.

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:

Metro Health's laboratory services branch provides analytical support for various public health programs. The laboratory is comprised of several testing areas that are designed to serve a variety of functions, customers and regulatory agencies in a 29-county region which includes San Antonio and Bexar County. The laboratory structure is divided by regulatory programs and functions: consumer microbiology and testing; infectious disease surveillance; bioterrorism/influenza surveillance; rabies analysis; and food surveillance. These funds will provide laboratory infrastructure support for the BioWatch laboratory program activities. Metro Health has received these funds from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security since 2012.

Metro Health also requests authorization for the Director to execute agreements, to include Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs), Data Use Agreements (DUAs) and Business Associate Agreements (BAAs), with no exchange of funds that enhance programs or services associated with this project.

ISSUE:

Through this action, Metro Health requests City Council authorize the acceptance of funds from DHS to continue to provide laboratory infrastructure support for the BioWatch program in an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 for the budget period ending September 26, 2025. Of the \$200,000.00, \$100,000.00 is for FY 2024 and \$100,000.00 is for FY 2025. Metro Health also requests authorization for the Director to execute agreements, to include Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs), Data Use Agreements (DUAs) and Business Associate Agreements (BAAs), with no exchange of funds that enhance programs or services associated with this project.

ALTERNATIVES:

Should City Council choose not to approve this ordinance, Metro Health will forgo an opportunity to receive additional funding for continued laboratory infrastructure support for the BioWatch program and will need to identify alternative support for the activities.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes the acceptance of funds in an amount up to \$200,000.00 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for the City of San Antonio Metropolitan Health District's BioWatch program for laboratory infrastructure support for a period ending September 26, 2025. Of the \$200,000.00, \$100,000.00 is for FY 2024 and \$100,000.00 is for FY 2025. There is no fiscal impact to the City's General Fund in the form of a cash match.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval.