



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 14

Agenda Date: December 19, 2024

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Neighborhood and Housing Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Veronica Garcia, Director

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program Application

SUMMARY:

An Ordinance authorizing the submission of a grant application and acceptance of funds upon award up to the amount of \$5,750,000.00 by the Neighborhood and Housing Services Department on behalf of the City of San Antonio to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the purpose of securing funding for the Lead Hazard Reduction Grant and Green and Healthy Homes Programs, for a grant period of January 1, 2025 through January 2, 2029; and approving a budget and personnel complement. The grant will fund the identification and reduction of lead hazards in approximately 135 low-income households with children under the age of six. The grant requires an in-kind match and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is expected to contribute \$500,000.00 over 48 months for administration in support of lead hazard reduction activities.

The ordinance also authorizes a personnel complement of two positions and allows the Director of the Neighborhood and Housing Services Department (NHSD) to execute the grant submission and award contract.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City of San Antonio has been awarded eight consecutive multi-year Lead Hazard Reduction Grants from HUD dating back to 1999, for a total investment of \$27,150,762.00. In that time, the City has assisted over 1,400 families with lead mitigation and small-scale repairs through supplemental funding from the Healthy Homes Program. This grant supports services that help low-to-moderate income households identify, remove, or stabilize lead-based paint hazards at no cost to the resident. The grant also emphasizes the importance of general lead-based paint hazard awareness to reduce childhood exposure to lead.

The City, through this grant award, will continue to engage a coalition of community partners committed to lead-safe activities and construction mitigation practices targeted at preventing the most vulnerable residents from being exposed to the threat of lead-based paint and other environmental hazards. This grant will assist children who are the most susceptible to the negative long-term health effects of extended lead-exposure that can result in central nervous system damage, as well as growth and developmental delays. Pregnant mothers exposed to lead can also experience health complications or even preterm birth. Those exposed to lead as adults have an increased risk of high blood pressure, cardiovascular problems, and kidney damage. The overall goal of the grant is to provide lead-safe housing to the residents of San Antonio, ensuring the safety of children, residents, and families.

ISSUE:

The grant will help with the City's continued commitment to create housing that is safe by protecting children and communities from the dangers of lead exposure. The LHRG program will conduct lead hazard control activities and address healthy home hazards on approximately 135 owner-occupied and tenant-occupied residential properties.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternatives include not approving the grant acceptance and exploring other funding sources of remediating lead-paint hazards for residents.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Ordinance authorizing the submission of a grant application and acceptance of funds upon award up to the amount of \$5,750,000.00 by the Neighborhood and Housing Services Department on behalf of the City of San Antonio to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the purpose of securing funding for the Lead Hazard Reduction Grant and Green and Healthy Homes Programs, for a grant period of January 1, 2025 through January 2, 2029; authorizing an in-kind match and Community Development Block Grant contribution of for administration in support of Lead Reduction Activities; and approving a budget and personnel complement.

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

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval.