



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
{{item.tracking_number}}

Agenda Item Number: 2

Agenda Date: February 23, 2023

In Control: Community Health, Environment and Culture Committee

DEPARTMENT: Department of Human Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Melody Woosley

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Spending Framework – Impactful Investments for Youth and Seniors (Older Adults)

SUMMARY:

This item provides an update on ARPA Spending Framework Investments for Youth and Seniors (Older Adults) and requests Community Health, Environment and Culture Committee feedback on investment priorities for remaining ARPA Spending Framework balances.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law, which provided emergency funding directly to state and local governments for the purpose of supporting their recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The City of San Antonio was awarded \$326.9 million in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) made available through ARPA.

The City allocated the SLFRF following a two-phase strategy. The first phase allocated \$97.5 million as part of the FY 2022 Budget Process to stabilize the City budget and address community needs. Phase II allocated \$229.4 million after a robust community engagement process that culminated with the City Council approving a spending framework in February 2022.

As part of the spending framework, the City Council requested that seven spending categories be sent to three Council Committees for the development of implementation plans that would guide the competitive process for the use of funds.

City Council approved implementation plans in the summer of 2022 and competitive solicitation processes and awards are underway.

On February 2, 2023 the City Council approved contract awards in the amount of \$36.40 million to 59 agencies recommended from a competitive process for Mental Health Services, Non-Profit Social Services, Senior Services, and Youth Services. A balance of \$3.75 million was unallocated from this competitive process and the City Council directed this balance to the Governance Committee for discussion.

The table below reflects the funds approved at the February 2nd City Council meeting and unallocated amount for each category.

Council Committee	Spending Category	RFP Amount	Amount Awarded	Unallocated Amount
Public Safety	Mental Health	\$22,750,000	\$19,313,756	\$3,436,244
Economic and Workforce Development	Youth	\$9,900,000	\$9,659,164	\$240,836
Community, Health, Environment and Culture (CHEC)	Seniors	\$5,000,000	\$4,927,339	\$72,661
CHEC	Non-Profits	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	
	TOTALS	\$40,150,000	\$36,400,259	\$3,749,741

Additionally, on February 8, 2023 the City Council was provided an update on the COVID-19 Recovery & Resiliency Plan and ARPA SLFRF Program. At this presentation, the City Council was made aware that \$3.9 million was available to be allocated from interest income and program balances. The City Council directed this balance to also be discussed at the February 15 Governance Committee meeting.

Governance Committee Actions Taken

After discussion and consideration of staff recommendations, the Governance Committee took the following actions:

- \$3,749,741 balance from competitive process for mental health, youth and seniors sent back to the respective committees who developed the implementation plans for further

discussion with an amendment that moved the balance in the Youth Category to the CHEC Committee.

- \$2,403,896 balance recommended for Non-Profit Agencies was amended to be divided equally and sent to the Public Safety and CHEC Committees.

The table below reflects these two actions. The recommendations from the Committees will be presented to the City Council for consideration once their work is completed.

Council Committee	Spending Category	Amount from Competitive Process	Amount added from ARPA balances	TOTAL
Public Safety	Mental Health	\$3,436,244	\$1,201,948	\$4,638,192
CHEC	Youth & Seniors	\$313,497	\$1,201,948	\$1,515,445
	TOTAL	\$3,749,741	\$2,403,896	\$6,153,637

- \$1,498,462 for COVID-19 Construction Grants for Small Businesses was approved to be added to the on-going application process that opened this past Monday February 13.

The actions taken by the Governance Committee officially closed the competitive solicitation process for Mental Health, Youth, Seniors, and Non-Profits. Applications from this process will not be considered for future allocations.

ISSUE:

The CHEC will discuss possible action and recommendations related to the \$1,515,445 balance of ARPA funding for the Non-profit Social Services, Youth and Seniors (Older Adults) Spending Categories and provide policy direction to City staff to develop a plan that:

1. Identifies a COVID-19 impact
2. Includes programs/ strategies that will benefit community members
3. Defines desired equitable outcomes with metrics to measure those outcomes
4. Provides a not-to-exceed, 4-year implementation plan

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item does not have a fiscal impact on City funds.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Committee may choose among several options to allocate these funds.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item does not have a fiscal impact on City funds.