

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 10/11/22

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 22-0850

LOG NAME: 19CDBG-CVSALVATION ARMY_FAMILY SHELTER_PY22-23

SUBJECT

(ALL) Authorize Change in Use and Adjust Existing Appropriations in the Amount of \$75,000.00 of Prior Year's Unprogrammed Community Development Block Grant Funds Received Under the Coronavirus Aid, Recovery and Economic Security Act for The Salvation Army Family Shelter, Authorize the Execution of a Contract, Authorize a Substantial Amendment to the City's 2019-2020 Action Plan, and Authorize the Substitution of Funding Years

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize a change in use and adjust existing appropriations in the amount of \$75,000.00 of prior year's unprogrammed Community Development Block Grant to The Salvation Army;
 2. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute a contract with The Salvation Army in an amount up to \$75,000.00 for the Red Shield Family Shelter;
 3. Authorize a substantial amendment to the City's 2019-2020 Action Plan; and
 4. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to substitute funding years in order to meet United States Department of Housing and Urban Development commitment, disbursement and expenditure deadlines.
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DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) is to reallocate available unprogrammed Community Development Block Grant funds to provide additional funding for a family shelter operated by The Salvation Army.

In April 2020, the City of Fort Worth was awarded \$4,360,291.00 in CARES Act CDBG-CV3 funds to provide services to low-to-moderate income residents to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic. The Fort Worth City Council subsequently awarded these funds to local nonprofit organizations providing a variety of urgently needed COVID-19-related services to eligible populations, including persons experiencing homelessness or at risk for experiencing homelessness. On May 19, 2020, City Council approved a Substantial Amendment to the City's 2019-20 Action Plan for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant funds stating how these CARES Act grant funds were to be used, and amended the City's Citizen Participation Plan to reduce public comment periods for CARES Act funds from 30 days to five days as authorized by the CARES Act (M&C 20-0330).

The COVID-19 pandemic and ensuing economic crisis continues to affect low-to-moderate income families.

The Salvation Army Red Shield Emergency Shelter is the only shelter in Fort Worth that serves all family compositions including single fathers, intact families, single mothers, families with teenage sons, and same sex households. Families are not required to separate, but are served as a unit together. As emergency rental assistance programs to prevent eviction and homelessness have ceased, the utilization of shelter services has increased. Therefore, the City of Fort Worth proposes to reallocate the \$75,000.00 to The Salvation Army, which currently administers CDBG-funded emergency rental assistance and related housing services on behalf of low-to-moderate-income renters, in order to ensure that all applicants receive timely and appropriate levels of customer service. These services will be available to residents throughout the City of Fort Worth.

A public comment period on this proposed substantial amendment to the 2019-20 Action Plan was held from September 6, 2022 to September 12, 2022. All comments received are maintained by the Neighborhood Services Department.

Funds will be allocated as follows:

Red Shield Program (Family Shelter) - \$75,000.00

The Salvation Army is located at 1855 E. Lancaster, Fort Worth, TX 76103. The program will be available in ALL COUNCIL DISTRICTS.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations, funds will be available in the current operating budget, as appropriated, of the Grants Operating Federal Fund. The Neighborhood Services Department (and Financial Management Services) will be responsible for the collection and deposit of funds due to the City. Prior to expenditures being incurred, the Neighborhood Services Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is a reimbursement grant.

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