

# Mayor and Council Communication

**DATE:** 05/04/21

**M&C FILE NUMBER:** M&C 21-0317

**LOG NAME:** 362021 SEVERE WINTER STORMS FEDERAL DECLARATION DR-4586-TX

**SUBJECT**

(ALL) Authorize Application for Reimbursement of Disaster Assistance Expenditures Related to DR-4586-TX from the Federal Emergency Management Agency-Public Assistance Program, Provide Interim Funding in the Amount of \$10,000,000.00, Authorize Transfer/Repurposing of the \$2,500,000.00 in Match Funds Previously Appropriated for Vaccinations from Available Fund Balance for Required Match, and Adopt Attached Appropriation Ordinance

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize application for reimbursement of disaster assistance expenditures related to DR-4586-TX from the Federal Emergency Management Agency;
  2. Authorize transfer/repurposing of the \$2,500,000.00 in match funds previously appropriated for vaccinations from available fund balance for required match; and
  3. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations to create interim funding in the Grants Operating Federal Fund in the amount of \$10,000,000.00.
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**DISCUSSION:**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has declared a Major Disaster Declaration (DR-4586-TX) due to the severe winter storm that impacted the City with an incident period starting February 11, 2021 through February 21, 2021. The City of Fort Worth has provided emergency sheltering, water distribution, street sanding/plowing, and other services related to the response of this event. Expenditures are expected to include personnel, supplies, water, repair costs, street sanding/plowing expenses, and contractual expenses.

Federal FEMA assistance is available to state, tribal and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency protective measures (Category B), including direct federal funding under FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) program, for all areas affected by DR-4586-TX at a federal cost share of 75%. The City is required to provide a 25% cash match for its share of covered expenses and will be sourced from the excess fund balance of the General Fund previously approved to use with FEMA PA for COVID-19 vaccination purposes. Subsequent changes to federal guidelines no longer require the use of match funds for the COVID-19 vaccination program. Any unused match funds will be returned to the General Fund at the appropriate time.

This appropriation for interim funding in the amount of \$10,000,000.00 will allow expenses to be identified and accumulated for future reimbursement. Any expense incurred but not determined to be eligible by the grantor will be returned to the original fund in the fiscal year that is currently open when that determination is made. It is anticipated that FEMA will extend the incident period and declare other categories of Public Assistance.

Indirect costs are allowable under this program as described in the Robert T. Stafford Relief and Emergency Assistance Act Section 324(b)(2)(B) and FEMA Recovery Policy FP 104-11-2, and will be requested.

ALL COUNCIL DISTRICTS are affected and included.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This contract will be with a governmental entity, state agency or public institution of higher education: Federal Emergency Management Agency

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**FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:**

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinance, funds will be available in the current operating budget, as appropriated, in the General Fund and Grants Operating Federal Fund. The Emergency Operations Center and Financial Management Services will be responsible for identifying and approving eligible expenditures. All City Departments will be responsible for ensuring that only expenditures directly related to DR-4586-TX, incurred during the allowable period, and supported by appropriate documentation are charged to this funding source. This is a reimbursement grant.

**Submitted for City Manager's Office by:** Valerie Washington 6199

**Originating Business Unit Head:** Jim Davis 6801

