

City of Fort Worth, Texas

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 11/30/21 M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 21-0908

LOG NAME: 23ARPA – VACCINATIONS AND TESTING

SUBJECT

(ALL) Approve Allocation of \$8,000,000.00 in Funds from the American Rescue Plan Act Grant for Vaccinations, Testing, and Related Emergency Preparedness and Response for Patient Care

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the allocation of up to \$8,000,000.00 from the American Rescue Plan Act, Subtitle M (Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds) for vaccinations, testing, related emergency preparedness and response for patient care.

DISCUSSION:

This Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) is to authorize the use of up to \$8,000,000.00 for vaccinations, testing, related emergency preparedness and response for patient care from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Subtitle M (Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds) for expenses incurred beginning October 1, 2021.

This budget allows for staffing and resources needed to continue offering COVID-19 patient care emergency response activities. Staffing expenses are funded to continue various operations such as: vaccination sites, testing sites, infusion treatment center support, and similar health and safety response elements that may arise.

In August 2021, another surge of COVID-19 viral infections impacted the Fort Worth community. Hospitals and other healthcare community partners began reporting resource needs and challenges in meeting the community needs for medical care. In September 2021, third doses (boosters) for the COVID-19 vaccines became increasingly available with expanded eligibility planned in the coming months. As the City of Fort Worth, we continue to offer a collaborative effort to meet emergency response needs that are beyond the capacity of our traditional healthcare network.

Funding will provide for necessary expenses for the continued emergency response operational needs previously funded by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which closed September 30, 2021. These needs may include: personnel time; personal protective equipment; communications and outreach campaigns; testing materials; testing site support materials; vaccination site support materials; treatment center materials; and general operating supplies. The estimated budget has accounted for costs related to additional needs related to public vaccine booster shot distribution, community testing, and expanded city staffing needs to augment community healthcare resources, as needed.

Anticipated budget categories are presented below:

Budget Categories	Allocation
Testing Operations	\$2,000,000.00
Vaccination Operations	\$5,500,000.00
Materials and Equipment	\$1,000,000.00
Response Support Services	\$ 500,000.00
Total Allocation	\$8,000,000.00

Responding to the negative health and economic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic is a specifically identified use of ARPA dollars under Section 603(c)(1)(A) of Title VI of the Social Security Act (added by ARPA). Treasury Department guidance specifically notes that these Fiscal Recovery Funds can be deployed for a broad range of uses to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 on local residents and accelerate the community's recovery from the pandemic.

The current amount requested will be allocated solely from the first tranche of ARPA funding (\$86,872,545.00), which was received May 19, 2021 and appropriated on June 22, 2021 (M&C 21-0445).

The following chart reflects the current status for allocation of the City's ARPA funding under Subtitle M, including all M&Cs on the November 30, 2021 Council Agenda:

		M&Cs

Total CFW ARPA Subtitle M Funding	\$ 173,745,090.00	21-0445 362021 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN
Allocations Approved To- Date	\$ 6,000,000.00	21-0794 25ARPA-VFW-TDG
Allocations Approved To- Date	\$ 1,000,000.00	21-0805 13ARPA- ADMINISTRATION
Allocations Approved To- Date	\$ 4,245,533.42	21-0810 17ARPA ALLOCATIONS EVANS & ROSEDALE REDEVELOPMENT
Allocations Approved To- Date	\$ 3,000,000.00	21-0809 17ARPA ALLOCATION CDFI FRIENDLY AMERICA
Allocations Approved To- Date	\$ 2,400,000.00	21-0811 17ARPA ALLOCATIONS TO UNTHSC TECHSTARS
Allocations Approved To- Date	\$ 10,100,000.00	21-0814 19ARPA ALLOCATIONS TO HOUSING AND HUMAN SERVICES PROJECTS
Allocations Approved To- Date	\$ 300,000.00	21-0820 25ARPA-WRMC MURAL PLAQUES
Pending Allocation	\$ 4,560,000.00	25ARPA- PED_CAPITAL_RESTORE
Pending Allocation	\$ 52,000,000.00	21ARPA-FWCC EXPANSION FUNDING & PROJECT MANAGEMENT
Pending Allocation	\$ 15,000,000.00	21FUTURE CITY HALL ARPA AND PEG FUNDING
Pending Allocation	\$ 8,000,000.00	23ARPA-VACCINATIONS AND TESTING (This M&C)
Remaining Unallocated Balance	\$ 67,139,556.58	

ALL COUNCIL DISTRICTS are affected and included.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendation, funds are available in the budget, as previously appropriated, of the Grants Operating Federal Fund. This is an advance grant. The Code Compliance, Fire and Financial Management Services Departments will be responsible for ensuring that only expenditures allowable under the American Recovery Plan Act are charged to this funding source.

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