

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 09/27/22

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 22-0757

LOG NAME: 19NS FUND FOR VETERANS ASSISTANCE GRANTS 2022-2023

SUBJECT

(ALL) Ratify Acceptance of a General Assistance Grant from the Texas Veterans Commission in an Amount of up to \$200,000.00 for Assistance to Veterans with Security Deposits, Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Assistance, Approve Execution of Applicable Grant Contracts, Waive Indirect Costs and Adopt Appropriation Ordinance

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Ratify the acceptance of a General Assistance Grant from the Texas Veterans Commission in an amount of up to \$200,000.00;
2. Authorize the execution of all applicable grant contracts;
3. Waive indirect costs in the estimated amount of \$4,865.57; and
4. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating State Fund in the amount of up to \$200,000.00, for the purpose of funding assistance to veterans with security deposits, rent, mortgage, and utility assistance.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of the Mayor and Council Communication is to ratify application for, and acceptance of a grant from the Texas Veterans Commission in an amount up to \$200,000.00 for activities that will benefit veterans in Fort Worth and Tarrant County.

The Forward Home Veteran Assistance Program funded by the General Assistance Grant will provide emergency financial assistance such as deposits, rental/mortgage, car repair, dental care, utility payments and requests that are short-term and temporary. The grant will be administered by the Community Action Partners (CAP) section of the Neighborhood Services Department. This funding will enable CAP to provide additional needed services to area veterans.

During the current grant period up to May 31, 2022, the Forward Home Veteran Assistance Program served 156 veterans or veteran family members with an average of \$658.34 per person. These funds were used to stabilize veteran households, preventing homelessness. The grant period runs from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023.

In the City's most recent Cost Allocation Plan, the indirect cost rate is 17.29% for the Neighborhood Services Department. A waiver by the City of indirect costs of approximately \$4,865.57 will maximize program benefits to veterans and surviving spouses.

This grant is a competitive grant received from the Texas Veterans Commission. The grant has been consistently awarded to the City since 2016. Grant funds support administrative and program delivery allocations for 1.00 FTE position in the Neighborhood Services Department.

Positions funded with Texas Veterans Commission grant are subject to grant availability. In the event of a grant award being decreased or eliminated, Neighborhood Services Department would review programs and services funded by the grants and determine a level of service and staffing that aligns with the available funding. Alternative to consider may include staff and program reductions or eliminations.

This program serves ALL COUNCIL DISTRICTS

A Form 1295 is not required because: This contract will be with a governmental entity, state agency or public institution of higher education: Texas Veterans Commission

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 Grants Operating State 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 an expenditure being incurred, the Neighborhood Services Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is a reimbursement grant.

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