
AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Commissioners Court – August 25, 2020

AI Number: 77017

Project Number: 2020-466

Information: [Requesting approval to purchase One (1) Ramp Mobile for Hidalgo County Emergency Management in order to assist with County functions related to medical and public health measures.]

Description of AI: (A) Discussion, consideration, and action to approve a necessary CARES Act Relief Fund expenditure to cover cost of purchase); (B) Exemption from competitive bidding requirements, pursuant to Texas LGC 262.024 (a)(1) & (2); (C) Requesting approval to purchase; (D) Requesting authorization for purchasing department to issue purchase order.

Funding Source: CARES Act Relief Fund (TBD)

Acct. # 0-1287-441-42-115-096-0-660

Requested by: Eduardo “Eddie” Olivarez, Health Director

Department: Health Department

Prepared by: Alexandra Vela, Contract Specialist III

Department: Purchasing Department

BACKGROUND

On March 17, 2020, pursuant to the authority under Texas Government Code Section 418.108, Hidalgo County Judge Richard Cortez issued a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency due to the imminent threat arising from the Coronavirus (COVID-19). On March 22, 2020, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b), the Commissioners Court of Hidalgo County issued an Order of Continuance of Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency that affirmed the activation of the Hidalgo County Emergency Management Plan and extends the Declaration of Local Disaster.

In coordinating the response to this ongoing public health emergency, the Hidalgo County Health Department is in need of one (1) ramp mobile. This will assist with effectively and immediately providing a response to transport stockpile personal protective equipment needed by the pandemic.

COMPLIANCE

Under the Presidential Policy Directive/PPD-8: National Preparedness, “it is aimed at strengthening the security and resilience of the United States through systematic preparation for the threats that pose the greatest risk to the security of the nation, including acts of terrorism, cyberattacks, pandemics, and catastrophic natural disasters,” and in compliance with the Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5), and the Center for Disease Control and

Prevention, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Capability 9 (Medical Material Management and Distribution), and pursuant to the Order of Continuance of Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency that affirmed the activation of the Hidalgo County Emergency Management Plan and extends the Declaration of Local Disaster, we request the courts approval for the purchase One(1) Mobile Ramp to continue the further needed response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

ADMINISTRATION:

As a critical countermeasure and to strengthen our preparedness and response capacity for Hidalgo County Emergency Management approval of the item is consistent with Hidalgo County's intended purpose to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This equipment would allow the loading and unloading of response (PPE) equipment and supplies for COVID-19 Operations..

AGENDA ITEM CAPTION

A. Discussion, consideration, and action to approve a necessary CARES Act Relief Fund expenditure to cover cost not accounted for in the current budget and cannot be lawfully funded by line item, allotment or allocation, for the [Hidalgo County Emergency Management One (1) Ramp Mobile], in order to assist with County Public Health expenses for acquisition and stockpile for personal protective equipment, for other public health or safety workers for addressing the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency; the Court having reviewed the Agenda Item Briefing, herein finds that such expenditure is reasonable and necessary for the intended use;

B. Exemption from competitive bidding requirements, pursuant to Texas LGC 262.024(a)(1): an item that must be purchased in case of a public calamity if it is necessary to make the purchase promptly to relieve the necessity of the citizens; (2) an item necessary to preserve and protect the public health and safety of the citizens.;

C. Authorization and approval to purchase through the State of Texas Federal Surplus Program under Chapter 2175.001 of the Texas Local Government Code and Sec 262.024 (9) (C): One (1) Mobile Ramp in the amount of \$1,950.00 through Requisition No. 419514;

D. Authorization for the Purchasing Department to issue a purchase order and the County Treasurer to issue a check payable to Texas Facilities Commissioner after review, audit, and processing procedures have been completed by the County Auditor.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval of the item will allow the Hidalgo County Emergency Management to efficiently provide support with stockpile of PPE equipment to address the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency. Recommending that Commissioners Court authorize the purchase for said mobile ramp as stated as it is a reasonable and necessary expenditure related to the County's COVID-19 Public Health Response. Expenditures will be charged to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Relief Grant Fund and/or other grant assistance available to address the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Attachments:

- Agenda Item Briefing
- TXLGC 262.024(a)1,2