
AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Commissioners Court – October 20, 2020

AI Number: 77889

Project Number: 2020-601

Information: Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding the purchase of Roll-Off and Grapple Trucks, Canisters/Containers and other related accessories or related items/attachments/components, for Hidalgo County in order to immediately assist with County functions for medical and public health measures during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

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 TxLGC 262.024 (a)(1) & (2); (C) Requesting approval to purchase items listed.

Funding Source: CARES Act Fund

Acct. # 0-1287-441-42-115-096-0-751

Requested by: Precinct's Chiefs of Staff

Department: Hidalgo County

Prepared by: Samuel Gonzalez, Contract Specialist I

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 accordance with the National Preparedness Goal under the Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8) which directs us to aim in the establishment of secure and resilient nation with the capabilities required across the whole community to prevent, protect against, mitigate respond to and recover from the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk, and in order to comply with the directive of Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5), the Hidalgo County Precincts have been presented with an overwhelming amount of solid waste and brush pickup as an effect of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has forced more residents to stay home for school and work.

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 act of terrorism, cyber-attacks, 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 Court’s approval for the purchase of Roll-Off and Grapple Trucks, Canisters/Containers, to continue the further immediate response to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

ADMINISTRATION

Approval of these items is consistent with Hidalgo County’s intended purpose to address the responsibility set forth in Chapter 330, Municipal Solid Waste, Subchapter A, General Information. The goal is to immediately address Hidalgo County Precinct’s ability to respond to increased waste due to stay-at-home orders, distance learning, and teleworking by Hidalgo County residents, leading to an overwhelming amount of solid waste and brush pickup.

AGENDA ITEM CAPTION

A) Discussion, consideration, and action to approve a necessary CARES Act Relief Fund expenditure to cover costs not accounted for in the current budget and cannot be lawfully funded by line item, allotment, or allocation, for the purchase of Roll-Off and Grapple Trucks, Canisters/Containers and other related accessories or related items/attachments/components, in order to assist with County functions related to medical and public health measures addressing the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency; the Court having reviewed the Agenda Item Briefing, attached herein, finds that such expenditure is reasonable and necessary for the intended use;

B) Requesting exemption from competitive bidding requirements, pursuant to TxLGC 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) Authority to proceed with the procurement of Roll-Off and Grapple Trucks, Canisters/Containers and other related accessories or related items/attachments/components as requested by each HC Precinct.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommending that Commissioners' Court authorize the exemption for said goods as they are reasonable and necessary expenditures related to the County's COVID-19 immediate Public Health Response. Approval of the items will allow Hidalgo County to proceed with immediately continuing to address the COVID-19 public health emergency. Expenditures will be charged to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Fund and/or other assistance available to address the COVID-19 public health emergency.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Agenda Item Briefing
- Tex. Loc. Gov. Code