



Hidalgo County • Department of Budget & Management
 American Rescue Plan Act 2021

Exhibit B - Project Briefings
 Revised 04/03/23

#	ARPA Project No.	ARPA Project Name	Expenditure Category
1	21-125-033	Hidalgo County Courthouse Pandemic Preparedness Retrofit Project	1.14: Other Public Health Services
2	21-125-039	MEDCARE EMS Assistance	2.29: Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship
3	21-340-041	Netsmart Expansion Module	1.14: Other Public Health Services
4	21-110-005	COVID-19 Infusion Therapy Communication Project	1.7: Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)
5	21-110-027	Public Affairs COVID-19 Media Campaign	1.7: Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)
6	21-115-003	Countywide Roadway Assessment Project	6.1: Provision of Government Services

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING
Commissioners Court – December 06, 2021

AI Number: 83649

Information: Requesting authority to provide funds to recover lost revenue to retrofit the Hidalgo County Courthouse. The Hidalgo County Courthouse, in an effort to continue to provide services to the community throughout the ongoing declared health emergency, will undergo retrofits which will enhance and upgrade current systems with the upgrades pertaining mostly to the HVAC equipment which will neutralize microbial contaminants that impede its efficiency and plumbing fixtures throughout the Hidalgo County Courthouse.

Description of AI: Approval of expenditures

Funding Source: American Rescue Plan Act Fund

Account No.: 1-1290-441-62-115-226-1-730

Requested by: Sergio Cruz

Prepared by: Diana Huallpa & Linette Solorsano

Department: Budget & Management

Background: On May 10, 2021 the U.S. Department of the Treasury announced the launch of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, to provide \$350 billion in emergency funding for state, local, territorial and Tribal governments. The American Rescue Plan Act permits the use of fiscal recovery funds for physical plant improvements or adaptations to public buildings to implement mitigation tactics.

The critical nature of the COVID-19 public health emergency has called for facility retrofits and adaptations. Capital investments in congregate settings to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are a vital component of mitigation efforts. Facility retrofits, such as air purification systems, provide needed protections to constituents and essential workers to avoid the contraction of COVID-19 and its potential health impacts.

The purpose of this action is to retrofit the Hidalgo County Courthouse in an effort to execute COVID-19 mitigation measures and safeguard public health. Physical plant improvements to the Hidalgo County Courthouse are necessary to continue to provide legal services amid the COVID-19 public health emergency and respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency and protect the wellbeing of constituents and Hidalgo County employees.

Compliance:

Procurement Method & Calendar

AI-62632 - Procurement Packet Approval & authority to advertise RFQ/P.

AI-63815 - Ranking/selection of CMAR - Morganti Texas, Inc.

AI-64066 - Approval to Execute AIA Agreement

AI-64113 - Final Contract & Notice to Proceed

Administration:

Approval of the item is consistent with Hidalgo County's intended purpose of the American Rescue Plan Act - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. The goal is to provide facility retrofits that include physical plant changes, which will provide needed protections to constituents and essential workers to avoid the contraction of COVID-19 and its potential health impacts.

Agenda Item Caption:

ARPA - American Rescue Plan Act (1290):

Discussion, consideration and action to approve a necessary ARPA Fund Expenditure to cover costs not accounted for in the current budget and cannot be funded by line item, allotment or allocation for the pandemic preparedness retrofit of the new courthouse structure, in order to assist the County with its response to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency and continue to provide necessary services to the community in compliance with public health measures necessary to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The Court, having reviewed the agenda item briefing attached, herein finds that such expenditure is necessary for the intended use.

Recommendations:

The Department of Budget and Management recommends approval of the use of the American Rescue Plan Act funds for the purpose of investing in facility retrofits to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Project Name:

Hidalgo County Courthouse Pandemic Preparedness Retrofit Project

Project Number:

ARPA-21-125-033

ARPA Expenditure Category:

1: Public Health

ARPA Eligibility Category:

1.14: Other Public Health Services

Fiscal Impact:

Estimated Budget \$3,565,310.00



Hidalgo County • Department of Budget & Management
American Rescue Plan Act 2021

Agenda Item Briefing
Commissioners Court - December 14, 2021

AI Number: 83831

Project Name: MEDCARE EMS Assistance

Project Numbers: ARPA-21-125-039

Project Department Name: Budget & Management

Funding Source: American Rescue Plan Act Relief Funds 1-1290-441-12-115-232-1-843

Prepared by: Christian Monterrubio & Linette Solorsano

Background Information

On May 10, 2021, the U.S. the Department of the Treasury announced the launch of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, to provide \$350 billion in emergency funding for state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments. The bill allows governments to provide funding to critical life-saving services to respond to the negative economic impacts of the ongoing public health emergency.

The COVID-19 public health emergency has placed a substantial amount of pressure on the emergency medical service sector and the first responder personnel due to the vast number of patients with COVID-19 who are in need of quality medical care. As COVID-19 cases continue to rise, more obstacles are placed upon medical services such as MEDCARE EMS. The program is intended to be for emergency medical services in the unincorporated areas of the County. By supporting MEDCARE EMS, it will help them recover and mitigate the negative impacts of the public health emergency Covid-19, and they will be able to continue providing life-saving services to Hidalgo County specially to underserved communities.

Compliance

The Memorandum of Understanding has been made in compliance with the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Interim Final Rules issued by the U.S. Treasury, which allows the use of American Rescue Plan Act funds for the purpose of supporting the public health response through emergence by aiding critical life-saving services that have been hit particularly hard by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Administration

Approval of the item is consistent with Hidalgo County's intended purpose of supporting emergency services providers to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency, and in compliance with the U.S. Treasury's Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Interim Final Rule.



Hidalgo County • Department of Budget & Management
American Rescue Plan Act 2021

Agenda Item Caption

ARPA - American Rescue Plan Act (1290):

A. Discussion, consideration, and action to approve the Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Emergency Medical Services Program for projects following the American Rescue Plan Act guidelines for the purpose of supporting emergency medical service providers to continue to provide critical life-saving services to Hidalgo County residents and address the COVID-19 public health emergency.

B. Discussion, consideration and action to approve the following projects under the Hidalgo County American Rescue Plan Act Emergency Medical Services Program.

1. MEDCARE EMS Assistance - Project Number: ARPA-21-125-039.

C. Discussion, consideration, and approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between MEDCARE EMS and the County of Hidalgo to provide funding to MEDCARE EMS to allow the emergency service provider to continue providing critical life-saving services to Hidalgo County residents to continue to providing critical life-saving services to Hidalgo County residents and address the COVID-19 public health emergency, with authority for the County Judge, as authorized official, to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

Recommendations

The Department of Budget & Management recommends approval of the use of ARPA Relief Funds to address the negative impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Project Name:

Med-Care EMS Assistance

Project Number:

ARPA-21-125-039

ARPA Expenditure Category:

2: Negative Economic Impacts

ARPA Eligibility Category:

2.29: Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Fiscal Impact:

Estimated Budget: \$350,000.00

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Commissioners Court –July 13, 2021

AI Number: 81564

Project Number: 21-0602

Information: [Requesting authority to authorize a discretionary exemption for Purchase of Additional Services for the implementation of GO Live Support and TB and Child Health expansion] Hidalgo County Health Department [*in order to assist with County functions related to medical and public health measures.*]

Description of AI: Requesting exemption from competitive bidding under TXLGC262.024(a)(1)(2)

Funding Source: American Rescue Plan

Acct. #1-1290-441-42-115-101-1-336

Requested by: Eduardo “Eddie” Olivarez, Health Director

Department: Health Department

Prepared by: Yolanda Velasquez, Contract Specialist II

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 & Human Services Department (HHSD) is in need consulting and project management services to continue with the GO Live Support of myInsight implementation project and the use of Plexus Foundations implementation methodology:

In order to meet the needs of our community, Hidalgo County HHSD needs additional sources to assist with COVID-19. With these additional resources, Hidalgo County Health will be able to better our medical community in any medical intervention. This will allow us to increase scalability in the number of remote sites needed to mitigate the impact caused by resurgence of Covid-19. It will also be able to handle a much larger quantity of clients without further stressing our own information technology infrastructure.

COMPLIANCE

Discretionary exemptions are authorized by the Texas Local Government Code 262.024 (a) states “a contract for the purchase of any of the following items is exempt from the requirement established by the section 262.023 if the commissioners court by order grants the exemption.” This request is being made under LGC 262.024 (a) (2), an item necessary to preserve or protect the public health or safety of the residents of the county, and LGC 262.024 (a) (4) a personal or professional service. The procurement of services complies with 2 CFR 200 requirements.

ADMINISTRATION

The new systems allow for effective access to the data as well and increased user capacity.

AGENDA ITEM CAPTION

- A. “Discussion, consideration, and action to approve a necessary American Rescue Plan expenditure to cover cost not accounted for in the current budget and cannot be lawfully funded by line item, allotment or allocation, for the Electronic Medical Records, in order to assist with County Public Health expenses 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. The Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) has identified a need to add the following services:
 - To outline the requirements and deliverables for the clients and use of Plexus Foundations implementation methodology to continue with GO Live Support in total amount of \$100,000.00
 - The purpose is to outline deliverables for the Client's my Insight with latest release of software to include the use of Plexus Foundations Home content and recommendation and continue with GO Live Insight for TB support for a total amount of \$66,000.00

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approval of the items will allow the Hidalgo County Health and Human Services Department to continue to respond to the current public health emergency of COVID-19. As previously stated, with these large impoverished population and continued incurred case search, therefore this is deemed a reasonable and necessary expenditure related to the County’s COVID-19 Public Health Response. Expenditures will be charged to the American Relief Fund, and Economic Security American Recovery Plan and/or other assistance available to address the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Attachments:

- 1295 Form
- Project Overview
- Agenda Item Briefing

Project Name:

Netsmart Expansion Modules

ARPA Project Number:

ARPA-21-340-041

Fiscal Impact:

Estimated Budget: \$166,000.00

ARPA Expenditure Category:

1: Public Health

ARPA Eligibility Category:

1.14: Other Public Health Services

AI-82519

County Judge's Office 6. E.

CC REGULAR AGENDA SPECIAL MTG

Meeting Date: 09/21/2021

Submitted By: Sandra Deleon, COUNTY JUDGE

Department: COUNTY JUDGE

Information

CAPTION

Discussion, consideration and approval of COVID-19 Communications Program to provide the community the necessary resources (information) regarding COVID-19, including but not limited to Infusions Therapy, and authorize the use of ARPA-CSLFRF funds for such expenditures.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this is to create and print infographic materials related to the COVID-19 Infusion therapy located in Hidalgo County which will be distributed to test sites as desired.

Fiscal Impact

CALENDAR YEAR: 2021

ACCT. #: 1-1290-441-42-115-101-1-XXX

FUNDS AVAILABLE Y/N?:

MATCHING FUNDS Y/N?:

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Funds available

Attachments

No file(s) attached.

Form Review

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Budget & Management	Veronica Ortiz	09/17/2021 04:14 PM
Final Approval	Monica Salinas	09/17/2021 08:15 PM
Form Started By: Sandra Deleon		Started On: 09/17/2021 02:37 PM
Final Approval Date: 09/17/2021		

Project Name:
COVID-19 Infusion Therapy Communication Project

ARPA Project Number:
ARPA-21-110-005

ARPA Expenditure Category:
1: Public Health

ARPA Eligibility Category:
1.7: Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)

Fiscal Impact:
Estimated Budget: \$932.00

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Commissioners Court – November 30, 2021

AI Number: 83487

Project Number: 2021-0911

Project Name: COVID-19 Media Campaign

Description of AI: Media Campaign - ARPA Funding

Funding Source: American Rescue Plan Fund (TBD)

Requested by: Carlos Sanchez

Department: County Judge's Office

Prepared by: Jireh Lira

Department: Purchasing Department

BACKGROUND

In an effort to comply with COVID-19 health and safety guidelines, the recent County Judge's Office requires a COVID-19 Media Campaign in order to relay communication effectively and efficiently. On May 10, 2021 the U. S. Department of the Treasury announced the launch of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, to provide \$350 billion in emergency funding for state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments. It allows recipients to use funds for revenue replacement due to reduction in revenue as a result of COVID-19.

COMPLIANCE

The Purchasing Department followed compliance with Texas Local Government Code 262.024(2), Discretionary Exemption, which allows the County to procure goods and services as necessary without the requirement of a competitive solicitation process. Services were also made utilizing the County's adopted procurement process, such as utilization of competitive quotes and purchasing cooperatives. Expenditures exceeding a threshold were also subject to price verification and the procurement of services complies with 2 CFR 200 requirements.

ADMINISTRATION

Approval of the item is consistent with Hidalgo County's intended purpose to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The goal is to provide efficient and effective delivery of services in light of change in technology, the public's expectations and the area's population and economy.

AGENDA ITEM CAPTION

A. "Discussion, consideration and action to approve a necessary ARPA 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 'COVID-19 Media/Strategy Campaign through various media platforms', in order to assist with County actions to facilitate compliance with public health measures mitigating the spread of the virus along with provisions of economic assistance and

support in connection with addressing the ongoing COVID-19 emergency; the Court having reviewed the Agenda Item Briefing, herein finds that such expenditure is necessary for the intended use."; B. Requesting exemption for competitive bidding requirement under Texas Local Government Code 262.024 (a)(1): an item that must be purchased in case of a public calamity; (2) an item necessary to preserve or protect the public health and safety of the citizens of the county; C. Requesting authority to enter into four (4) media contracts with the following; Entravision, Telemundo, KRGV and KVEO 23/4 with authority for County Judge or assignee to sign required documents if needed and subject to compliance with Form 1295 and legal's approval of terms, conditions and form for each; with authority for County Judge or designee to sign any required documents

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommending that Commissioners Court authorize the exemption for said goods/services as stated as they are reasonable and necessary expenditures related to the County's COVID-19 immediate Public Health Response. Approval of the items will allow the Hidalgo County IT Department proceed with immediately addressing the COVID-19 public health emergency. Expenditures will be charged to the American Rescue Plan Act Fund.

ARPA Project Name:
COVID-19 Media Campaign

ARPA Project Number:
ARPA-21-110-027

ARPA Expenditure Category:
1: Public Health

ARPA Eligibility Category:
1.7: Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)

Fiscal Impact:
Estimated Budget: \$364,727.75

AGENDA ITEM BRIEFING

Commissioners Court – September 21, 2021

AI Number: 82503

Information: Requesting authority to pay the Countywide roadway assessment study expenditures and as a result in reduction in resources due to the COVID-19 public health emergency as necessary and eligible under the American Rescue Plan Act Fund for the period in which the COVID-19 economic crisis is in effect.

Description of AI: Approval of expenditures

Funding Source: America Rescue Plan Fund

Account No.: 1-1290-441-62-115-101-1-334

Requested by: Sergio Cruz, Budget Officer

Department: Budget & Management

Prepared by: Angélica M. Tapia, Budget Analyst

Department: Budget & Management

Background:

In an effort to update and improve County roadway inventory, roadway maintenance and capitalization, and therefore GASB reporting, a countywide roadway assessment is required.

On May 10, 2021 the U.S. Department of the Treasury announced the launch of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, to provide \$350 billion in emergency funding for state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments. It allows recipients to use funds for revenue replacement due to reduction in revenue as a result of COVID-19.

Compliance:

These services were procured in an effort to protect and reduce the spread of COVID-19 and provide a safe working environment. The Purchasing Department followed compliance with Texas Local Government Code 262.024(2), Discretionary Exemption, which allows the County to procure goods and services as necessary without the requirement of a competitive solicitation process. Services were also made utilizing the County's adopted procurement process, such as utilization of competitive quotes and purchasing cooperatives. Expenditures exceeding a threshold were also subject to price verification and the procurement of services complies with 2 CFR 200 requirements. Furthermore, this will ensure a more accurate and precise method of GASB reporting. Previous GASB report was completed in 2006/2007.

Administration:

Approval of the item is consistent with Hidalgo County's intended purpose of maintaining an updated and accurate inventory of roads, a more efficient and cost effective maintenance and capitalization of roads while using ARPA funds in order not to further reduce County-owned resources that may affect the public services.

Agenda Item Caption

ARPA - American Rescue Plan Act Funds (1290):

A. Discussion, consideration, and action to approve the payment of the countywide roadway assessment study expenditures for a period in which the COVID-19 Public Health and Economic crisis is in effect, as necessary, use American Rescue Plan Act Funds loss revenues to cover costs not accounted for in the current budget and cannot be lawfully funded by line item, allotment or allocation in connection with the ongoing COVID-19 public health and economic crisis; the Court having reviewed the Agenda Item Briefing, herein finds that such expenditures are reasonable and necessary for the intended use.

B. Approval of 2021 interdepartmental transfer in the amount of \$1,660,128.92.

Recommendations:

The Department of Budget and Management recommends approval of the use of ARPA funds for the countywide roadway assessment study expenditure as it is needed in order to comply with GASB reporting. Such expenditures not previously budgeted for and due to reduction of revenues resulting from the COVID-19 public health crisis. Expenditures will be charged to the American Rescue Plan Act Fund.

Project Name:

Countywide Roadway Assessment Project

ARPA Project Number:

ARPA-21-115-003

ARPA Expenditure Category:

6: Revenue Replacement

ARPA Eligibility Category:

6.1: Provision of Government Services

Fiscal Impact:

Estimated Budget: \$1,660,128.92