

ST. PETERSBURG CITY COUNCIL
(Non-Consent Agenda Item)
Meeting of September 3, 2020

TO: The Honorable Ed Montanari, Chair, and Members of City Council

SUBJECT: A resolution authorizing the Mayor or his designee to accept a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) in the amount of \$2,902,139 for the Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus (“ESG-CV-2”) funding to prevent, prepare for and respond to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic which addresses the unique needs of low- and moderate-income individuals; approving a substantial amendment to the FY 2019/20 Annual Action Plan (“Amendment”) in the amount of \$2,902,139 to add projects to fund with ESG-CV-2 and to expedite the use of these resources to address the COVID-19 crisis; approving a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$2,902,139 from the increase in the unappropriated balance of the Emergency Solutions Grant Fund (1112), resulting from additional revenue to be received during FY 2019/20, to the Housing and Community Development Department, Administration Division (082-1089); authorizing the Mayor or his designee to submit the substantial amendment of the FY 2019/20 Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”); to execute all documents necessary to effectuate these transactions; and providing an effective date.

EXPLANATION: During March 2020, Congress and the President approved the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”), Public Law 116-136, which has the purpose of providing emergency assistance and health care response for individuals, families and businesses affected by the 2020 coronavirus pandemic. Funding was approved to ensure that individuals/households who have lost their jobs, had to close their businesses, or who could not pay their rents/mortgages were provided resources to assist them while waiting for the pandemic to subside.

The CARES Act made available an additional \$4 billion in Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus (“ESG-CV”) funds to supplement the FY 2020 ESG funding provided under the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-94) to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) in which HUD immediately allocated \$1 billion to entitlement recipients based on the FY 2020 ESG formula. On April 2, 2020, the City of St. Petersburg (“City”) was awarded \$539,562 in ESG-CV-1 grant funding and on May 21, 2020 accepted and appropriated this grant by Resolution #2020-197.

On June 9, 2020, HUD advised the City that an additional \$2.96 billion in funding for ESG-CV grants was being allocated by a separate formula developed by the Secretary of HUD. The variables used in this calculation were: 1) total homeless population, 2) unsheltered homeless population, 3) total very-low income renters, and 4) very-low income renters that are overcrowded or without a kitchen or plumbing. Based on this formula, the City of St. Petersburg (“City”) was awarded \$2,902,139 in ESG-CV-2 grant funding.

In order to accelerate the ability to assist those most in need, a substantial amendment to the FY 2019/20 Annual Action Plan (“Amendment”), which was originally approved under Resolution Number 2019-393 dated August 1, 2019, is needed to add projects for the ESG-CV-2 funding totaling \$2,902,139.

A Notice of Funding Availability (“NOFA”) was placed in the Tampa Bay Times on July 8, 2020 that described the activities for the grant funding totaling \$2,902,139 as follows:

- \$104,499 for City administrative costs
- \$1,185,714 for rental/utility assistance
- \$1,611,926 for to prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19 crisis

Proposals were requested from not-for-profit agencies for allowable activities to address the funding totaling \$1,611,926 with the deadline for submission occurring on July 31, 2020. Five applications were received and have been reviewed for eligibility and responding to the impact of the COVID-19 crisis.

Administration has determined that all requests meet the need for funding from the \$1,611,926 available to prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19 and is recommending funding to the following:

- Community Action Stops Abuse (CASA) – \$25,627 – increase in food/consumable supplies, childcare and security;
- Catholic Charities – \$250,000 – rapidly re-house the homeless and housing stability case management;
- Directions for Living – \$600,000 – rapidly re-house the homeless and housing stability case management; and
- St. Vincent dePaul – \$257,416 – provide temporarily hotel/motel vouchers where shelter beds are not available prioritizing persons who are at greater risk of COVID-19 including persons 60 years of age and older with underlying health conditions and
- St Vincent dePaul – \$478,883 – rapidly re-house the homeless and housing stability case management.

From the initial \$1,185,714 shown as available funding in the NOFA for rental/utility assistance, Administration is supporting that \$1,000,000 be utilized for direct rental/utility assistance and \$185,714 for program delivery fees to be awarded to Boley Centers and Catholic Charities as ongoing funding to continue to provide assistance on behalf of the City.

A public notice was published on August 26, 2020, in the Tampa Bay Times to notify the public of the proposed Amendment and of the public hearing to be held on September 3, 2020, which complies with the revised Citizen Participation Plan requirements of the Consolidated Plan.

Administration is requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$2,902,139 in ESG-CV-2 funding from the increase in the unappropriated balance of the Emergency Solutions Grant Fund (1112) resulting from the grant to fund the programs.

RECOMMENDATION: A resolution authorizing the Mayor or his designee to accept the grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) in the amount of \$2,902,139 for the Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus (“ESG-CV”) funding to prevent, prepare for and respond to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic which addresses the unique needs of low- and moderate-income individuals; approving a substantial amendment to the FY 2019/20 Annual Action Plan (“Amendment”) in the amount of \$2,902,139 to add projects to fund with Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus (“ESG-CV”) and to expedite the use of these resources to address the COVID-19 crisis; approving a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$2,902,139 from the increase in the unappropriated balance of the Emergency Solutions Grant Fund (1112), resulting from additional revenue to be received during FY 2019/20, to the Housing and Community Development Department, Administration Division (082-1089); authorizing the Mayor or his designee to submit the substantial amendment to the FY 2019/20 Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”); execute all documents necessary to effectuate these transactions; and providing an effective date.

COST/FUNDING/ASSESSMENT INFORMATION:

Revenues of \$2,902,139 will be received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”). Funds will be available after the approval of a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$2,902,139 from the increase in the unappropriated balance of the Emergency Solutions Grant Fund (1112), resulting from these additional revenues, to the Housing and Community Development Department, Administration Division (082-1089).

Attachment: Resolution

APPROVALS:

Administration: Robert Gerdes Budget: 

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A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (“HUD”) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,902,139 FOR THE EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT CORONAVIRUS (“ESG-CV-2”) FUNDING TO PREVENT, PREPARE FOR AND RESPOND TO THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC WHICH ADDRESSES THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME INDIVIDUALS; APPROVING A SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2019/20 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN (“AMENDMENT”) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,902,139 TO ADD PROJECTS TO FUND WITH ESG-CV-2 AND EXPEDITE THE USE OF THESE RESOURCES TO ADDRESS THE COVID-19 CRISIS; APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,902,139 FROM THE INCREASE IN THE UNAPPROPRIATED BALANCE OF THE EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT FUND (1112), RESULTING FROM ADDITIONAL REVENUE TO BE RECEIVED DURING FY 2019/20, TO THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, ADMINISTRATION DIVISION (082-1089); AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SUBMIT THE SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2019/20 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN TO HUD; TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THESE TRANSACTIONS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, during March 2020, Congress and the President approved the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”), Public Law 116-136, which has the purpose of providing emergency assistance and health care response for individuals, families and businesses affected by the coronavirus pandemic, and

WHEREAS, the CARES Act made available an additional \$4 billion in Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus (“ESG-CV”) funds to supplement the FY 2020 ESG funding provided under the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-94) to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) in which HUD immediately allocated \$1 billion to entitlement recipients based on the FY 2020 ESG formula; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2020, the City of St. Petersburg (“City”) was awarded \$539,562 in ESG-CV-1 grant funding and on May 21, 2020 City Council accepted and appropriated this grant by Resolution #2020-197; and

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2020, HUD advised the City that an additional \$2.96 billion in funding for ESG-CV-2 grants was being allocated by a separate formula developed by the Secretary of HUD that included variables such as 1) total homeless population, 2) unsheltered homeless population, 3) total very-low income renters, and 4) very-low income renters that are

overcrowded or without a kitchen or plumbing and, based on this formula, the City was awarded \$2,902,139 in ESG-CV-2 grant funding; and

WHEREAS, in order to accelerate the ability to assist those most in need, a substantial amendment of the FY 2019/20 Annual Action Plan (“Amendment”), which was originally approved under Resolution 2019-393 dated August 1, 2019, is needed to add projects for the ESG-CV funding totaling \$2,902,139; and

WHEREAS, a Notice of Funding Availability (“NOFA”) was placed in the Tampa Bay Times on July 8, 2020 that described the activities for the grant funding totaling \$2,902,139 as: 1) \$104,499 for administrative costs, 2) \$1,185,714 for rental/utility assistance, and 3) \$1,611,926 to prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, proposals were requested from not-for-profit agencies for allowable activities to address the funding totaling \$1,611,926 with the deadline for submission occurring on July 31, 2020; whereby, five applications were received and have been reviewed for eligibility and responding to the impact of the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, Administration has determined that all requests meet the need for funding from the \$1,611,926 available to prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19 and is recommending funding to the following:

- Community Action Stops Abuse (CASA) \$25,627 – increase in food/consumable supplies, childcare and security;
- Catholic Charities \$250,000 – rapidly re-house the homeless and housing stability case management;
- Directions for Living \$600,000 – rapidly re-house the homeless and housing stability case management; and
- St. Vincent dePaul \$257,416 – provide temporarily hotel/motel vouchers where shelter beds are not available prioritizing persons who are at greater risk of COVID-19 including persons 60 years of age and older with underlying health conditions and
- St Vincent dePaul \$478,883 – rapidly re-house the homeless and housing stability case management; and

WHEREAS, from the initial \$1,185,714 shown as available funding in the NOFA for rental/utility assistance, Administration is supporting that \$1,000,000 be utilized for direct rental/utility assistance and \$185,714 for program delivery fees to be awarded to Boley Centers and Catholic Charities to continue to provide assistance on behalf of the City; and

WHEREAS, a public notice was published on August 26, 2020, in the Tampa Bay Times to notify the public of the proposed Amendment and of the public hearing to be held on September 3, 2020, which complies with the revised Citizen Participation Plan requirements of the Consolidated Plan; and

WHEREAS, Administration is requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$2,902,139 in ESG-CV-2 funding from the increase in the unappropriated balance of the Emergency Solutions Grant Fund (1112) resulting from the grant to fund the programs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of St. Petersburg, Florida, that there is hereby approved that the Mayor or his designee is authorized to accept the grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) in the amount of \$2,902,139 for the Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus (“ESG-CV-2”) funding to prevent, prepare for and respond to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic which addresses the unique needs of low- and moderate-income individuals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there is hereby approved the following substantial amendment to the FY 2019/20 Annual Action Plan (“Amendment”) in the amount of \$2,902,139 to add projects to fund with ESG-CV-2 and expedite use of these resources to address the COVID-19 crisis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there is hereby approved the following supplemental appropriation from the increase in the unappropriated balance of the Emergency Solutions Grant Fund (1112), resulting from additional revenue to be received during FY 2019/20, for FY20:

<u>Emergency Solutions Grant Fund (1112)</u> Housing and Community Development Department, Administration Division (082-1089)	\$2,902,139
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor or his designee is authorized to submit the substantial amendment to the FY 2019/20 Annual Action Plan to HUD.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor or his designee is authorized to execute all documents necessary to effectuate these transactions.

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Approvals:

Legal: /s/Bradley Tennant

Administration: Robert Gerdes

Budget: E Makofske

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