



Roll Call Number

21-0026

Agenda Item Number

24

Date January 11, 2021

APPROVE APPLICATION TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY FOR THE EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, on December 27, 2020 the U.S. Department of Treasury was authorized to make available \$25 billion to assist households with the Emergency Rental Assistance program, as included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021; and

WHEREAS, eligible grantees for the Emergency Rental Assistance program includes States, U.S. Territories, local governments with more than 200,000 residents, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, and Indian tribes; and

WHEREAS, in Iowa, eligible grantees for the Emergency Rental Assistance program includes Linn County, Polk County, and the City of Des Moines; and

WHEREAS, 90 percent of awarded funds must be used for direct financial assistance—including rent, rental arrears, utilities and home energy costs, utilities and home energy costs arrears, and other expenses related to housing—for eligible residents of Des Moines. Remaining funds are available for housing stability services, including case management and other services intended to keep households stably housed, and administrative costs; and

WHEREAS, eligible residents of Des Moines includes those who qualify for unemployment or has experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced a financial hardship due to COVID-19; demonstrate a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability; and have a household income at or below 80 percent of the area median; and

WHEREAS, computation of payment amounts to grantees is unknown, and will be established after eligible grantees have submitted an application to the U.S. Department of Treasury with a signed acceptance of award terms; and

WHEREAS, the City of Des Moines must submit an application and signed acceptance of award terms to the U.S. Department of Treasury by the end of the day January 12, 2021; and

WHEREAS, funds provided under this award will remain available only through December 31, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, that:



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1. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute, on behalf of the City, said award terms agreement.
2. City staff is hereby directed to submit the completed application Emergency Rental Assistance to the U.S. Department of Treasury.

(Council Comm. No. 21-020)

MOVED BY Gray TO ADOPT

1. Allocate and advance \$100,000 of the US Department of Treasury Funding to the Eviction Prevention Program at the Justice Center

FORM APPROVED:

Judy K. Parks-Kruse
Judy K. Parks-Kruse
Assistant City Attorney

a. Allow funds to be utilized while staff and Polk County Housing Trust Fund get the contract in place

2. Allocate the remaining funds to IMPACT for continuation of their rental assistance program in accordance with US Department of Treasury Emergency Rental Assistance Program guidelines

- a. Advance up to 10% of the US Department of Treasury Funds to allow the program to begin
- b. Allow funds to be utilized while staff and IMPACT get the contract in place

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE	✓			
BOESEN	✓			
GATTO	✓			
GRAY	✓			
MANDELBAUM	✓			
VOSS	✓			
WESTERGAARD	✓			
TOTAL	7			

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVED

J. M. Franklin Cownie
Mayor

CERTIFICATE

I, P. Kay Cmelik, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

P. Kay Cmelik

City Clerk