



AGENDA
HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA
COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
May 19, 2020 10:00 AM
3555 Timmons Lane, 2nd Floor
Conference Room B
Houston, TX 77027

1. INVOCATION
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Members of the public may participate by sending comments to BoardPublicComments@h-gac.com; by joining online via our website; or by dialing 1-877-853-5247 (Webinar ID 91728780002; Password 806815)
4. DECLARE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

ACTION

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed are of a routine nature and may be acted on in a single motion unless requested otherwise by a member of the Board.

- a. H-GAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES - APRIL 21, 2020
Request approval of the minutes of the April 21, 2020 Board Meeting. (Staff Contact: Rick Guerrero)
- b. COLOCATION DATA CENTER
Request authorization to enter into a three-year contract with Data Foundry; amount not to exceed \$60,000. (Staff Contact: Tanya Nguyen)
- c. FISCAL YEAR 2020 AGING CONTRACT AMENDMENT
Request authorization to amend nutrition contracts for emergency home-delivered meal services; amount not to exceed \$1,161,163. (Staff Contact: Mike Temple)
- d. WORKFORCE FINANCIAL MONITORING CONTRACTS
Request approval to renew financial monitoring contracts with Weaver and Christine Nguyen, CPA for a third year; total for both contracts not to exceed \$950,000. (Staff Contact: Mike Temple)
- e. TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD PROJECTS
Request authorization to contract with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to continue implementation of Regional Bacteria Reduction Plan and provide technical support; amount not to exceed \$750,000. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)
- f. HGACBUY - 911 EQUIPMENT AND EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SOFTWARE AND SERVICES
Request authorization to negotiate contracts with respondents listed in the Contract Award Recommendation Table for 911 Equipment and Emergency Notification Software and Services. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)
- g. HGACBUY - RECORD AND PLAYBACK SYSTEMS

Request authorization to negotiate contracts with each respondent listed for Record and Playback Systems. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

h. HGACBUY - REFUSE HANDLING EQUIPMENT

Request authorization to contract with respondents for Refuse Handling Equipment. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

i. HGACBUY - SOLAR PANELS AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT

Request authorization to negotiate a contract with each respondent listed in the Contract Award Recommendation Table for Solar Panels and Associated Equipment. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

j. H-GAC PLANNING STUDIES BUNDLE #1 BUDGET AMENDMENT

Request authorization to amend the executed Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation to increase federal funding by \$153,000 to cover TxDOT's project review costs for the Planning Studies Bundle #1; total amount not to exceed \$5,253,000. (Staff Contact: Alan Clark)

k. H-GAC PLANNING STUDIES BUNDLE #2 BUDGET AMENDMENT

Request authorizations to amend the Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation to increase federal funding by \$350,000, total amount not exceed \$1,150,000; and to remove from the Advance Funding Agreement \$150,000 of local funds. Local funds will still be used to reimburse staff and consultant expenses for the project. (Staff Contact: Alan Clark)

6. FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE

Report on activities and Committee recommendations.

a. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - APRIL 2020

Request approval of monthly financial report ending April 30, 2020. (Staff Contact: Nancy Haussler)

7. PLANS AND PROJECTS REVIEW COMMITTEE

a. HOMELAND SECURITY - MANVEL TOWER PROJECT

Request authorization to submit an application for the Manvel Tower Site Project; amount not to exceed \$2,014,167. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

b. HOMELAND SECURITY - PLUM GROVE TOWER PROJECT

Request authorization to submit an application for the Plum Grove Tower Project; amount not to exceed \$1,739,170. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

c. HOMELAND SECURITY - TRI-COUNTY TOWER PROJECT

Request authorization to submit an application for the Tri-County Tower Project; amount not to exceed \$1,427,133. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

d. HOMELAND SECURITY - WALKER COUNTY MICROWAVE UPGRADE PROJECT

Request authorization to submit an application for the Walker County Microwave Update Project; amount not to exceed \$545,483. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

e. FISCAL YEAR 2020 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM PRIORITY LIST

Request adoption of Fiscal Year 2020 State Homeland Security Program grant projects, as recommended by Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Council.

(Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

f. GULF COAST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Request that the Gulf Coast Economic Development District's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy is found consistent with H-GAC's plans, policies, and review criteria; including Our Great Region 2040. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)

8. PUBLIC SERVICES

Presentation concerning current and possible future disaster recovery programs.

a. HARRIS COUNTY SMALL BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAM -
ADDITIONAL UNDERWRITER

Request ratification of agreement with Synerlock Corporation; amount not to exceed \$100,000. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

9. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

a. NORTH HOUSTON COMMUNITIES TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES
PLAN

Request authorization to enter an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation to receive \$1.5 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant funds for the North Houston Communities Transportation Priorities Plan. (Staff Contact: Alan Clark)

INFORMATION

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

No action requested. For information only. (Staff Contact: Chuck Wemple)

b. H-GAC SPOTLIGHT - TRAVEL DEMAND MANAGEMENT

No action requested. For information only. (Staff Contact: Alan Clark)

c. CURRENT AND UPCOMING H-GAC ACTIVITIES

Report on current and upcoming H-GAC activities. (Staff Contact: Chuck Wemple)

11. ADJOURNMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, H-GAC will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending H-GAC functions. Requests should be received by H-GAC 24 hours prior to the function.

H-GAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES - APRIL 21, 2020

Background

The H-GAC Board of Directors convenes on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Meeting minutes are prepared following each Board meeting to summarize any action taken and document the attendance of Board members.

Current Situation

A summary of the April 21 meeting of the H-GAC Board of Directors is attached and recommended for approval.

Funding Source

N/A

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

Request approval of the minutes of the April 21, 2020 Board Meeting. (Staff Contact: Rick Guerrero)

ATTACHMENTS:

▣ April 2020 Meeting Minutes

Cover Memo

MEETING MINUTES

H-GAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

April 21, 2020

ATTENDANCE ROSTER

The following members of the Board of Directors (Board) of the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) attended all or a portion of the April 21, 2020 Board meeting, via webinar and/or teleconference:

Brazoria County Commissioner Stacy Adams
 Chambers County Commissioner Gary Nelson
 Fort Bend County Commissioner Andy Meyers
 Galveston County Commissioner Ken Clark
 Harris County Commissioner Adrian Garcia
 Liberty County Judge Jay Knight
 Matagorda County Judge Nate McDonald
 Montgomery County Commissioner Charlie Riley
 Walker County Commissioner Jimmy Henry
 Waller County Judge Trey Duhon
 Wharton County Judge Phillip Spenrath

City of Deer Park Councilman Tommy Ginn (Alternate)
 City of Friendswood Councilmember Sally Branson
 City of Galveston Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Craig Brown
 City of Houston Council Member Sallie Alcorn
 City of Huntsville Mayor Andy Brauninger

City of La Porte Councilmember Chuck Engelken
 City of Lake Jackson Councilmember Ralph “Buster” Buell
 City of League City Mayor Pat Hallisey
 City of Missouri City Council Member Dr. Cheryl Sterling
 City of Pasadena Councilmember Cary Bass
 City of Sugar Land Mayor Joe Zimmerman
 City of Texas City Commissioner Phil Roberts

Home Rule Cities (Less than 25,000):
 City of Dickinson Councilmember William King III
 City of Seabrook Mayor Pro Tem Natalie Picha

General Law Cities:
 City of Waller Councilmember Nancy Arnold

Independent School Districts:
 Huntsville ISD Trustee Rissie Owens

The following Board members were not marked in attendance at the April 21, 2020 Board meeting:

Austin County Judge Tim Lapham
 Colorado County Judge Ty Prause
 Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo

City of Baytown Council Member Charles Johnson
 City of Conroe Councilman Jody Czajkoski

City of Houston Council Member Letitia Plummer
 City of Pearland Mayor Tom Reid
 City of Rosenberg Mayor William Benton

City of Pattison Mayor Joe Garcia

ANNOUNCEMENT

Prior to the Call to Order, Houston-Galveston Area Council Executive Director Chuck Wemple thanked everyone for joining us for our second remote meeting due to the current conditions. This is in accordance with the Governor's temporary suspension of certain open meetings requirements due to the COVID-19 disaster declaration, as announced on March 16, 2020.

CALL TO ORDER

The Board Chair, City of Waller Council Member Nancy Arnold, called the Board meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 via Webinar and Teleconference at 1-877-853-5247. Chair Arnold explained that the late start was due to the Finance and Budget Committee prior to the Board Meeting, which took a little longer than expected.

1. INVOCATION

Brazoria County Commissioner Stacy Adams, immediate past Board Chair, gave the invocation.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City of Sugar Land Mayor Joe Zimmerman led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the Texas Flag.

ROLL CALL

Chair Arnold asked Rick Guerrero, Houston-Galveston Area Council Director of Intergovernmental Relations, to complete the Board of Directors Roll Call. Mr. Guerrero complied and then stated that a quorum was present. Twenty-seven of thirty-six Board Members were present, exceeding the required number for quorum.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Arnold invited public comments and asked Mr. Guerrero if any public comments had been received via email or if any members of the public wished to make comments during the call. Mr. Guerrero stated that we had not received any public comments via the email address posted publicly. He then stated that we have thirty-one attendees on the teleconference and opened the floor for public comments; limited to three minutes each. Chair Arnold reminded everyone that the Board cannot deliberate or take action on matters raised in public comments. There were no public comments on the webinar, via phone, or via online submission.

4. DECLARE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Chair Arnold called for any Board member conflicts of interest. Hearing none, she proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Arnold called for the Consent Agenda and any corrections of the items listed therein. Hearing none, she entertained motions from the floor for approval of the Consent Agenda. City of League City Mayor Pat Hallisey moved to approve the consent agenda, and City of Dickinson Councilmember William King III, Vice Chair of the Board, seconded the motion. Mr. Wemple stated that we will take the positive vote; and for the negative vote, he asked for Members to

identify themselves so that we will attribute it appropriately in the count. Chair Arnold then called for a vote which resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

The following items were acted on by approval of the consent agenda:

- a. **H-GAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES MARCH 17, 2020** – approved minutes from the March 17, 2020 Board Meeting.
- b. **CLEAN CITIES PROGRAM AGREEMENT** – authorized to amend agreement with the U.S. Department of Energy for Clean Cities program activities; additional \$72,500 with total contract amount not to exceed \$240,000.
- c. **CLEAN VEHICLES AND HEAVY DUTY DIESEL REPLACEMENT ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS** – authorized agreements for the acquisition of forty-one vehicles; amount not to exceed \$4,302,734.
- d. **AREA PLAN FOR AGING PROGRAMS - FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022** – approved of the Area Plan for Aging Programs - Fiscal Year 2021-2022.
- e. **MICROSOFT OFFICE 365 SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL** – approved renewal of Microsoft Office 365 licenses for one year with CDW-G through State or Federal contracts; not to exceed a total contract amount of \$64,240.
- f. **CONROE OFFICE SPACE - AGING PROGRAMS** – approved renewal of Conroe office space lease for an additional three-year term; total cost not to exceed \$63,000 or \$21,000 per year.

6. **FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE**

a. **Monthly Financial Report – March 2020**

Chair Arnold recognized Vice Chair King as the Chair of the Finance and Budget Committee. Vice Chair King apologized for the tardiness of the meeting and thanked the committee members for great participation and discussion. He then yielded the floor to Nancy Haussler, H-GAC Chief Financial Officer. Ms. Haussler presented the financial status report for the month ended March 31, 2020. Ms. Haussler stated the fund balances have increased as anticipated. She stated that most of the membership dues have been paid and thanked Board Members for those payments. Ms. Haussler announced that the Agency has received its allotment from the state for the Gulf Coast Region 911 program. She further stated that we are also expecting increases from federal and state revenue. Ms. Haussler requested approval of the March 2020 Financial Report.

Chair Arnold asked for any questions from the floor. Vice Chair King moved to approve the Monthly Financial Report and Harris County Commissioner Adrian Garcia seconded the motion. The vote resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

7. **HUMAN SERVICES**

(over)

a. Workforce Adult Education Contracts

Chair Arnold stated that the request is to approve the 2021 adult education services and contracts. She yielded the floor to Mike Temple, Director of Human Services for H-GAC. Mr. Temple stated that the Gulf Coast Workforce Board delivers a variety of adult education services throughout the 13-county region through contracts with 15 authorized providers. He stated these services include English language instruction, literacy classes, adult basic education, adult secondary education, high school diploma equivalency preparation, and joint basic education-skills training classes. Mr. Temple reported that during 2020, over 21,700 students would be served and during 2021, it is expected that over 22,000 students would be served. He announced that all of the contractors are continuing to operate [while in this pandemic] by migrating classes to distance learning and online learning; and are looking for new students due to the capacity to serve more through the distance and online learning modes. Mr. Temple stated that the Workforce Board also recommended increasing up to \$394,073 to career office contracts for case management and job placement support. He requested approval of the 2021 adult education services and contracts in an amount not to exceed \$18,587,073.

Mr. Temple entertained questions from the floor. There was a question from the floor by Harris County Commissioner Adrian Garcia regarding the contract for Harris County's Department of Education. Mr. Temple affirmed that the amount for Harris County is almost \$5 million. A second question from the floor was posed by City of Seabrook Mayor Pro Tem Natalie Picha, who asked if any contractors have voiced concern with technology challenges in terms of online capabilities for distance learning and online education. Mr. Temple responded that there have not been a lot of issues with those concerns and that this is something the consortium is always concerned about. He further stated that we do have the capacity to provide students with the materials they need. Commissioner Garcia asked another question regarding the job loss created by COVID-19 and is any of this budget specified for workforce development to get people with new skill sets that will make them employable. Mr. Temple affirmed that these programs are geared for occupational/job skills. He stated that the consortium has been marketing the joint basic education-skills training classes to persons who may be unemployed at the time, but also to employers who want to upskill their current and returning workers. Commissioner Garcia asked that we keep track of the contractors and how many COVID-19 impacted people they are engaging. Mr. Temple agreed that we would note those persons as we serve them.

Chair Arnold entertained a motion to approve this request. City of Friendswood Councilmember Sally Branson so moved and Commissioner Garcia seconded the motion. The vote resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

b. Workforce System Contract Amendments

Chair Arnold once again yielded the floor to Mr. Temple to bring forth the request for approval of the Workforce System Contract amendments; amount not to exceed \$17.7 million and total contracts not to exceed \$249,081,500 million. Mr. Temple stated that the Gulf Coast Workforce Board increased the budget for an additional \$16 million for financial aid payments, the majority of which will be used for expanded childcare service, including childcare for [COVID-19] essential workers around the region. He further stated that an additional \$1.5 million is requested for career office operations which will allow completion of build-outs for three local offices –

Missouri City, Huntsville, and the Willowbrook area of Houston; and expansion of workforce service to more ex-offenders re-entering society. Mr. Temple stated that an additional \$200,000 to expand the number of employers we can assist with talent acquisition and talent development. He announced that all of the Workforce Offices are open remotely, and we are working diligently to help employees and employers because new jobs are being posted all the time. He also reported that we have repositioned approximately 70 local staffers to Texas Workforce Commission to help process unemployment insurance claims.

Chair Arnold asked a question regarding employer services; specifically, what kind of skilled workers would be included in this program? Mr. Temple responded that all types of skilled workers are included – highly skilled, mid-level and lower-level – and typically based on employer needs. Chair Arnold asked that given employees have been furloughed, etc.: what gaps are currently being filled? Mr. Temple responded that largely essential workers are needed; with a sizeable demand in the areas of healthcare, transportation and logistics, more than anything else.

Vice Chair King requested assistance hosting a job fair for the month of June in Dickinson / Galveston County for ex-offenders' and veterans' employment opportunities; along with students seeking employment for the summer since school has already been suspended for the rest of the school year. Mr. Temple agreed and asked that anyone else with similar interests please contact him as well.

Chair Arnold called for any further questions for Mr. Temple. Hearing none, she entertained a motion to approve this request. Vice Chair King so moved and Commissioner Garcia seconded the motion. Chair Arnold called for the vote which resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

8. PUBLIC SERVICES

a. Harris County Small Business Loan Program

Chair Arnold introduced Ronnie Barnes, H-GAC Director of Public Services, to discuss this item after Mr. Wemple summarizes the program. Mr. Wemple reminded everyone that at the March Board Meeting, the members approved a limited delegation of authority for the Board Officers to work with Executive Director to react within the current COVID-19 situation to keep contracts moving and in place. Mr. Wemple stated that H-GAC was approached by Harris County to stand-up a small business loan program to aid those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. He stated that the Harris County Commissioners Court approved the program on April 7 and the H-GAC Board officers approved the program on April 8. Mr. Wemple noted that within 27 hours of the program being opened online, over 7,000 applications requesting more than \$150 million had been filed. Mr. Wemple stated that this amount far exceeded the \$10 million available, the decision was made to pause the application acceptance process and begin work on the applications already received.

Mr. Wemple stated this loan program is for Harris County businesses funded by Harris County; and that Harris County also provided the funds for H-GAC to administer the program through the Local Development Corporation. Mr. Wemple explained that the Houston-Galveston Area Local Development Corporation administers loans in our region and across the state; and he noted that they have a separate Board of Directors. He reported that the Local Development Corporation approved to contribute \$200,000 to help establish the program and make it scalable in the event other groups within the region want to utilize their services for their own programs, they will be able to stand-up additional programs very quickly and efficiently. Mr. Wemple stated

(over)

that the need to procure additional contractors was also included in this item and approved by the Board Officers. Mr. Wemple requested ratification of this agreement with Harris County to administer the Harris County Small Business Loan Program; amount not to exceed \$11,200,000; and to negotiate agreements with selected underwriting contractors amounts not to exceed \$100,000 each.

Commissioner Garcia moved to ratify the agreement. Mayor Zimmerman seconded the motion. Chair Arnold then called for the vote, which resulted in unanimous approval. Chair Arnold also thanked the staff for their hard work to get this program up and running. Commissioner Garcia added his thanks; noting that despite the overwhelming response, the website did not crash and the process was simple for the applicants. He also offered the help of his staff for any others who want to initiate a program for their constituency. Vice Chair King asked Mr. Wemple if H-GAC might play a role in attracting and securing funds/donations at the national level from philanthropists, celebrities, and others for the region. Mr. Wemple noted that he would address this issue in his Executive Director's Report.

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

Mr. Wemple reported that the Agency has been working remotely since March 16 and have been very productive in this mode. He stated that the remote work program was accomplished in a 3-phase roll-out. Mr. Wemple noted that the Agency conducted a system test one week before implementing the remote work program. He announced that all the programs are operating well, and efficiency has increased in some areas. Mr. Wemple stated that the Data Services team has been able to ensure that all employees have connectivity at home as well as work on special projects like the Harris County Loan Program; hence, they are due special thanks. He also noted that all of the departments have been able to conduct meetings remotely, mainly using Microsoft Teams. Mr. Wemple announced that the Remote Work Program remains in effect for the Agency through April 30 with a possible extension and a phased return to the office.

Mr. Wemple stated that the CARES Act and other federal legislation impacts us directly; specifically, the Families First Act which requires employers with 50-500 employees to allow for an extended sick leave and dire medical leave in certain situations. He noted that certain entities are allowed to off-set the costs because it is in addition to employees have already approved and does not require a draw-down of their leave. Certain entities are allowed to recoup that cost via tax credits; however governmental employers like Houston-Galveston Area Council are exempted from any kind of tax credit. We are not sure at this point of our ability to be reimbursed for these costs through our grants. Mr. Wemple also noted that some employees are entitled to compensation or partial compensation that continues for a number of weeks – ranging from those who are showing COVID-19 to those who are required to quarantine or who are required to care for someone quarantined or a child under the age of 18 who cannot arrange childcare while school districts are closed; this is not typically covered under sick leave or medical leave. The first ten days are unpaid leave or they can use accrued leave; but after that, compensation is required for up to ten weeks. Employees are eligible after thirty days and are entitled to two-thirds of their pay. Mr. Wemple stating that he is bringing this to the Board's attention today, because if the Agency is not allowed to charge these costs to grants, it must come out of the general fund. Close to half of the approximately 250 employees would be eligible for these benefits, through the end of the

calendar year; with a cost of up to \$630,000 for these 105 employees. He stated that he will keep the Board posted as things develop, but wanted to advise the Board of this possible liability.

Mr. Wemple stated that the current situation has not only increased productivity and efficiency within the Agency; but has also brought out creativity in some process, notably the Finance and Transportation departments going to paperless invoicing. Many departments are also hosting web-based meetings and workshops. Mr. Wemple also announced that the Agency is hosting a series of municipal response to COVID-19 roundtables during the next few weeks.

b. H-GAC Spotlight – Senior Meals

Mr. Wemple yielded the floor to Mr. Temple to discuss senior meals, one of the programs with the Area Agency on Aging. Mr. Temple reported that the meal providers are still working to provide these senior meals. In addition to the home-delivered meals, the Agency typically has a large number of congregate meals daily at senior centers throughout the region. Mr. Temple stated that these congregate meals have been shifted to curbside deliveries due to the current pandemic; where the recipients can pick-up the meal and take it home with them. He stated that the home-delivered program is also continuing and is actually expanding. He thanked all the providers, staff, and volunteers who have been working so hard to maintain the commitment of keeping older Texans feed. Chair Arnold asked if the change to curbside pick-up has been well-received and Mr. Temple responded in the affirmative.

c. Current and Upcoming H-GAC Activities

Chair Arnold asked Mr. Wemple to report on any upcoming H-GAC non-COVID activities. Mr. Wemple announced that the Agency is currently in a Budget Revision, which is typical for this time of the year and will likely be presented to the Board for approval in June or July. He also reported that the annual audit is wrapping up and the results should also come to the Board in June. At this point, things are looking good and there have been no adverse findings in the audit. Mr. Wemple announced that the General Land Office sent an electronic notification that they have rescheduled the Method of Distribution process for the \$208 million Hurricane Harvey mitigation funds to the fall; starting with a call for projects. He stated that he doesn't agree with this change because it delays the distribution of funds to the entities that need it; and a lot could happen between now and the fall and with the storm season approaching. Galveston County Commissioner Ken Clark agreed with Mr. Wemple and stated that a call for projects will end up taking even more time and money which will eventually not be funded; he stated that H-GAC and the individual entities should request that the General Land Office use a different format for the distribution of these funds such as direct allocations similar to the distribution for the Hurricane Ike fund. Mr. Wemple clarified that the \$208 million is not a part of the call for projects. Chair Arnold concurred with Commissioner Clark.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Arnold asked if there were any questions for Mr. Wemple's report or any other questions. Hearing none, Chair Arnold adjourned the April Meeting of the H-GAC Board of Directors at 11:20 a.m.

COLOCATION DATA CENTER

Background

Since 2006, the Houston-Galveston Area Council has contracted with Data Foundry, Colocation Data Center, located in Austin, Texas for hosting the agency's critical application for our Disaster Recovery Plan. The Austin Data Center served as a secondary network to provide for failover of e-mail, website, and financial systems in case of a major outage to the main data center at the Houston-Galveston Area Council location.

Current Situation

The current equipment has reached the end of its useful life and no longer meets the agency's needs to provide redundant technology for a true disaster recovery scenario. The current contract with Data Foundry is due to expire on August 22, 2020.

Staff reviewed and negotiated a new contract with Data Foundry to migrate the equipment from Austin's location to the Houston 2 Data Center location. The Houston 2 is a new state of the art data center with a 185-mph wind rating for high performance computing environments. The new service will include network expansion with higher bandwidth and increased power capacity to house H-GAC's core services and the Workforce Wide Area Network and ensure high availability.

The contract is a three-year term service which includes one full rack cabinet space and 50 Megabytes rate network bandwidth service.

Funding Source

Local Funds

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorization to enter into a three-year contract with Data Foundry; amount not to exceed \$60,000. (Staff Contact: Tanya Nguyen)

FISCAL YEAR 2020 AGING CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Background

Houston-Galveston Area Council is the Area Agency on Aging for Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller and Wharton counties. The Area Agency on Aging provides an array of nutrition and support services to older adults. In August 2019, the H-GAC Board of Directors approved funding for congregate and home-delivered meals for needy individuals age 60 years and older. Currently, congregate meals are not being provided at this time as senior centers and community centers in the region are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead, meal contractors are providing home-delivered meals for nutrition program participants.

Current Situation

Through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, the Texas Health and Human Service Commission has allocated funds to Area Agencies on Aging to provide emergency meals. These funds will be used for eligible participants who do not have access to grocery stores, food establishments, live in a food desert area, or are socially isolated because of the viral pandemic.

The Area Agency allocated Families First Coronavirus Response Act funds for home-delivered meal services by county by using a three-part population formula. The formula consists of (1) population aged sixty and over; (2) low-income population aged sixty and over; and (3) low-income minority population aged sixty and older.

The Aging and Disability Advisory Committee reviewed and approved the recommended funding at its April 16, 2020 meeting.

Attachment A identifies contractors and summarizes funding recommendations.

Funding Source

Texas Health and Human Service Commission

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorization to amend nutrition contracts for emergency home-delivered meal services; amount not to exceed \$1,161,163. (Staff Contact: Mike Temple)

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2020 Home Delivered Meals Contract Amendment

Cover Memo

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL / AREA AGENCY ON AGING
2020 Families First Coronavirus Response Act Funding
Attachment A
Funding by Service Provider

County	FFCRA Home Delivered Meals Funds	Total Funds	Approved Vendor List
Austin	\$ 20,732	\$ 20,732	Helping One Another
Brazoria	\$ 167,558	\$ 167,558	Actions, Inc.
Chambers	\$ 20,234	\$ 20,234	Sr. Citizens Project of Chambers County
Colorado	\$ 19,873	\$ 19,873	Wharton County Junior College
Fort Bend	\$ 267,932	\$ 267,932	Fort Bend Sr. Citizens, Inc.
	\$ 84,610	\$ 84,610	Catholic Charities
Galveston	\$ 97,606	\$ 97,606	Galveston Sr. Citizens
	\$ 86,557	\$ 86,557	Interfaith Ministries
Liberty	\$ 39,886	\$ 39,886	Cleveland Sr. Citizens Org.
	\$ 7,597	\$ 7,597	Grace Initiative of South Liberty County
Matagorda	\$ 27,115	\$ 27,115	Economic Action Committee
		\$ -	
Montgomery	\$ 237,789	\$ 237,789	Montgomery Co. Committee on Aging
		\$ -	
Walker	\$ -	\$ -	Senior Center of Walker County
	\$ 30,786	\$ 30,786	
Waller	\$ 21,310	\$ 21,310	Fort Bend Sr. Citizens, Inc.
Wharton	\$ 31,577	\$ 31,577	Wharton County Junior College
Total	\$ 1,161,163	\$ 1,161,163	

Footnotes:

Allocation is based on Texas Health and Human Services (HHSC) FFCRA Regional allocation.

Funding Formula ((60+pop.) + (60+minority pop.) + (60+poverty pop.)) = Funding

Demographic Source: HHSC

WORKFORCE FINANCIAL MONITORING CONTRACTS

Background

The Workforce Board through H-GAC contracts with two financial monitoring firms to review workforce system contractors' financial systems and billings, ensuring compliance with contract requirements, rules, and regulations as well as appropriateness of expenditures.

Current Situation

Weaver and Christine Nguyen, CPA, our financial monitors, both have delivered exceptional work over the past two years. We are recommending the Board renew both for the third year of a four-year term.

Because of an increase in both the dollars invested in the workforce system and the number of workforce contractors, we are requesting a total of no more than \$950,000 for financial monitoring activities that include:

- Financial systems compliance monitoring
- Expenditure testing for appropriateness and allowability
- Special reviews of workforce management information systems and the system for providing financial aid to customers
- Education for contractors on contract financial systems requirements

We will negotiate scopes of work with each contractor to ensure that total dollars in the two contracts combined would not exceed the maximum available.

Funding Source

Texas Workforce Commission

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request approval to renew financial monitoring contracts with Weaver and Christine Nguyen, CPA for a third year; total for both contracts not to exceed \$950,000. (Staff Contact: Mike Temple)

TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD PROJECTS

Background

Houston-Galveston Area Council has contracted with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality since 2007 to support initiatives to reduce bacteria and other pollutants in area waterways through Total Maximum Daily Load projects. The scope of this agreement covers all of the bayous in the Houston metropolitan area, as well as Clear Creek, Lake Houston, Armand Bayou, and other areas. Through this contract, H-GAC established the Bacteria Implementation Group, comprised of local government representatives and other stakeholders. The Bacteria Implementation Group developed a voluntary Regional Bacteria Reduction Plan, implementation of which is underway.

Current Situation

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has proposed a contract with H-GAC to continue coordination of Regional Bacteria Reduction Plan implementation efforts and provide technical support including water quality standards, monitoring and assessment; watershed planning and management; and public participation to waterbodies within the 13-county H-GAC service region.

These activities will begin September 1, 2020 and continue through November 30, 2024.

Funding Source

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

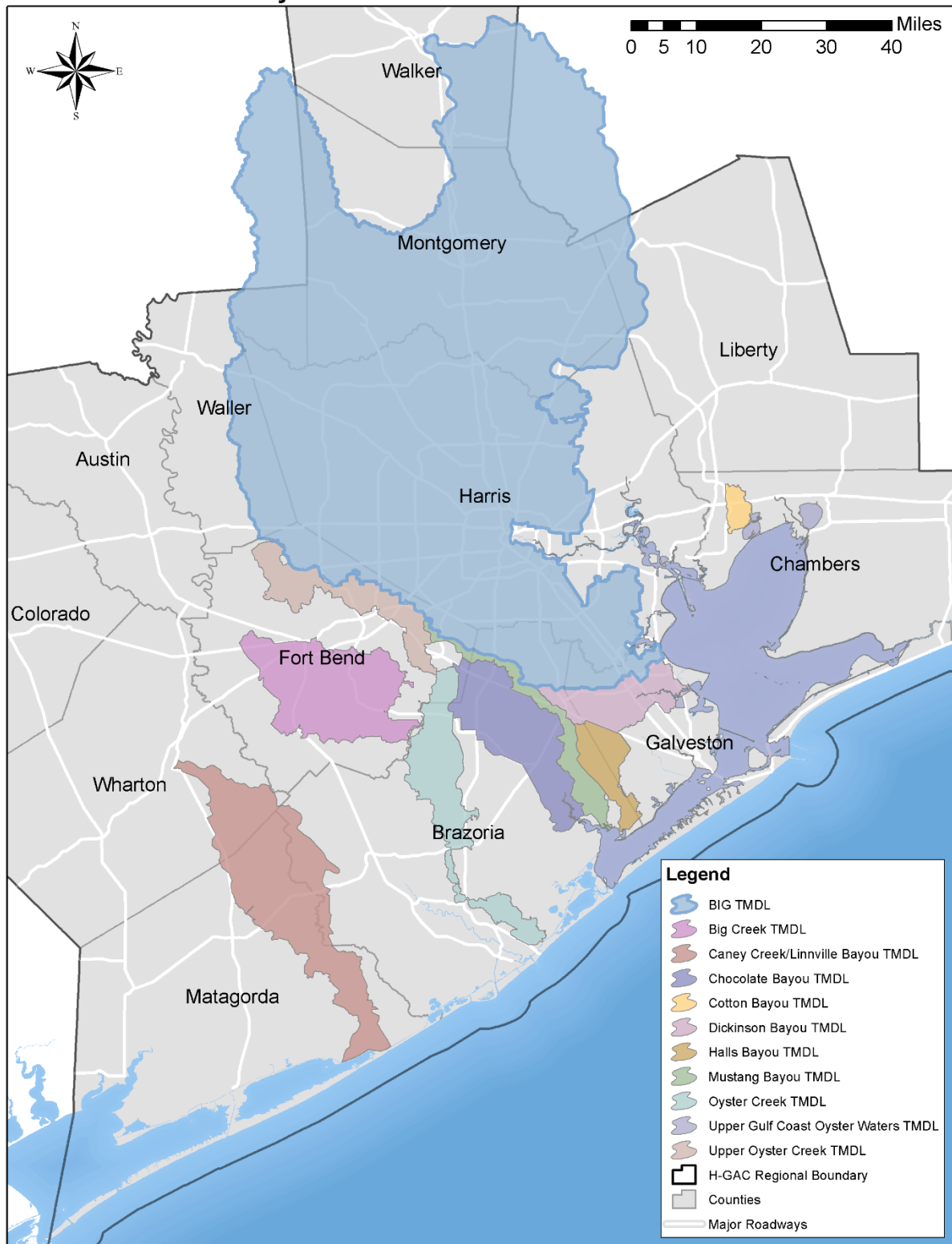
Request authorization to contract with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to continue implementation of Regional Bacteria Reduction Plan and provide technical support; amount not to exceed \$750,000. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)

ATTACHMENTS:

▢ TMDL Map May 2020

Cover Memo

TMDL Projects Within the H-GAC Service Area



HGACBUY - 911 EQUIPMENT AND EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SOFTWARE AND SERVICES

Background

The H-GAC cooperative purchasing program (HGACBuy) establishes contracts for a variety of products and services through competitive solicitations. Member governments are able to use the contracts to make purchases. HGACBuy received and opened thirty-nine proposals for 911 Equipment and Emergency Notification Software and Services on March 10, 2020. The following companies submitted a proposal:

911 Datamaster, Inc.	Overland Park, KS
AT&T Services, Inc. DBA; AT&T Services, AT&TLabs	Dallas, TX
Colossus, Incorporated dba InterAct Public Safety Systems	Winston-Salem, NC
Carbyne, Inc.	New York, NY
CenturyLink Communications, LLC dba CenturyLink	Monroe, LA
Comtech Solacom Technologies, Inc.	Gatineau, Quebec, CA
CSS Mindshare LLC	Lincoln, NE
Dictation Sales And Service, Inc. dba Equature	Southfield, MI
DM & MM, LLC dba Modular Communication Systems, DM & MM, LLC	Traverse City, MI
Endura, LLC	Brookfield, WI
ErgoFlex Systems, Inc. dba Xybix Systems, Inc.	Littleton, CO
Evans Consoles Incorporated	Vienna, VA
Frontier Communications of America, Inc.	Norwalk, CT
Geo-Comm, Inc.	St. Cloud, MN
Integrated Computer Systems, Inc.	McKinney, TX
Intrado Life & Safety Solutions Corporation	Longmont, CO
MCM Technology LLC	Birmingham, AL
Michael Baker International, Inc.	Moon Township, PA
Miller at Work, LLC	High Point, NC
* Motorola Solutions, Inc.	Chicago, IL
Noble 911 Services	Sisters, OR
National Public Safety Solutions	Austin, TX
Purvis Systems Incorporated	Middletown, RI
RapidDeploy, Inc.	Austin, TX
Rave Wireless, Inc. dba Rave Mobile Safety	Framingham, MA
Russ Bassett Corp.	Whittier, CA
SecuLore Solutions, LLC	Odenton, MD
SmartCOP, Inc.	Pensacola, FL
Southern Software, Inc.	Southern Pines, NC
Spok, Inc.	Springfield, VA
Synergem Technologies, Inc.	Mount Airy, NC
Tri-County Communications Ltd	Weslaco, TX

US Digital Designs, Inc.	Tempe, AZ
Watson Furniture Group, Inc.DBA Watson Consoles	Poulsbo, WA
Western States Communications, Inc. DBA WSC, Inc.	San Angelo, TX
Westnet, Inc.	Huntington Beach, CA
Wright Line Holding, Inc. DBA Wright Line LLC	Chicago, IL
Zoll Data Systems, Inc.	Broomfield, CO
Zoll Medical Corporation	Chelmsford, MA

*Joint Bidder

Current Situation

This contract is a continuation of an existing contract in our portfolio that offers a variety of 911 related equipment, software, and services. It includes twelve new vendors and updated technology. All proposals have been evaluated by H-GAC staff. Thirty-eight proposals (consisting of thirty-nine vendors) are being recommended for award. Colossus, Incorporated dba InterAct Public Safety Systems proposal was deemed non-compliant due to required documents not being provided. Request authorization to negotiate contract with the respondent listed in the Contract Award Recommendations Table, and as may be applicable, to extend contract assignments to other authorized entities during the contract period.

Funding Source

Participating local government purchases

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

Request authorization to negotiate contracts with respondents listed in the Contract Award Recommendation Table for 911 Equipment and Emergency Notification Software and Services. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

ATTACHMENTS:

EC07-20 Award Recommendation Table

Cover Memo

H-GAC Product Categories

A: 911 equipment, including fixed/portable PSAP workstation/terminal equipment; related hard-wired/wireless telephone equipment; servers, mobile data terminal equipment; controllers, routers, recorders, fiber optic cables, et cetera

B: Software: 911 records management, Computer-Assisted Dispatch/Mapping (CAD/CAM), in-vehicle/hand-held mapping systems, Automatic Number/Location ID (ANI/ALI), et cetera

C: Emergency notification equipment and software (outbound public safety notifications solutions)

D: Furniture, consoles, et cetera

E: Other 911 related equipment, systems and services not otherwise specified

EC07-20 Award Recommendation Table

Proposal	Product Category
911 Datamaster, Inc.	B, E
AT&T Services, Inc. DBA; AT&T Services, AT&T Labs	A, B
Carbyne, Inc.	E
CenturyLink Communications, LLC dba CenturyLink	A, B, C, E
Comtech Solacom Technologies, Inc	A, B, E
CSS Mindshare LLC	E
Dictation Sales And Service, Inc. dba Equature	A
DM & MM, LLC dba Modular Communication Systems, DM & MM, LLC	A
Endura, LLC	D
ErgoFlex Systems, Inc. dba Xybix Systems, Inc.	D
Evans Consoles Incorporated	D, E
Frontier Communications of America, Inc.	A, B
Geo-Comm, Inc.	B, E
Integrated Computer Systems, Inc.	B
Intrado Life & Safety Solutions Corporation	A,B, E
MCM Technology LLC	B

Michael Baker International, Inc.	B, E
Miller at Work, LLC	D
Motorola Solutions, Inc., Vesta Solutions, Inc.	A, B, E
Noble 911 Services	A
National Public Safety Solutions	E
Purvis Systems Incorporated	A, B, C, E
RapidDeploy, Inc.	B, E
Rave Wireless, Inc. dba Rave Mobile Safety	B
Russ Bassett Corp.	D
SecuLore Solutions, LLC	E
SmartCOP, Inc.	B
Southern Software, Inc.	B
Spok, Inc.	A, B, C, D, E
Synergem Technologies, Inc.	B
Tri-County Communications Ltd	A, B, C, D,E
US Digital Designs, Inc.	C
Watson Furniture Group, Inc.DBA Watson Consoles	D
Western States Communications Inc	A, B, E
Westnet, Inc	A,B, E
Wright Line Holding, Inc. DBA Wright Line LLC	A, B, C
Zoll Data Systems, Inc.	B, C, E
Zoll Medical Corporation	A, B

HGACBUY - RECORD AND PLAYBACK SYSTEMS

Background

The H-GAC cooperative purchasing program (HGACBuy) establishes contracts for a variety of products and services through competitive solicitations. Member governments are able to use the contracts to make purchases. HGACBuy received and opened six competitive proposals for Record and Playback Systems on March 4, 2020. The following companies submitted proposals:

Eventide Inc.*	Little Ferry, NJ
HigherGround, Inc.*	Canoga Park, CA
NICE Systems, Inc.*	Hoboken, NJ
Sanus Systems, Inc. dba Creative Switching Designs	Katy, TX
Stancil Corporation	Santa Ana, CA
Exacom	Concord, NH

Current Situation

This contract is a continuation of an existing contract in our portfolio offering digital recording and logging systems with one new additional vendor. All proposals have been evaluated by H-GAC staff. Six proposals, consisting of 14 vendors, are being recommended for award. Request authorization to negotiate contracts with each respondent listed in the Contract Award Recommendation Table, and as may be applicable, to extend contract assignments to other authorized entities during the contract period.

Funding Source

Participating local government purchases

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

Request authorization to negotiate contracts with each respondent listed for Record and Playback Systems. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

ATTACHMENTS:

▢ RP07-20 Award Recommendation Table

Cover Memo

RP07-20 Award Recommendation Table

Proposal	Product/System
Exacom	Networkable Digital Logging Recorder Systems (NDLRS)
Eventide Inc.; Vista Com; Goserco, Inc.; Quality Recording Solutions	
HigherGround, Inc.; Commercial Electronics Corp.	
NICE Systems, Inc.; A Third Opinion Solutions Corp.; Firstline Business Systems, Inc.; Voice Products, Inc.; Word Systems, Inc.	
Sanus Systems Inc. dba Creative Switching Designs, Inc.	
Stancil Corporation	

HGACBUY - REFUSE HANDLING EQUIPMENT

Background

The H-GAC cooperative purchasing program (HGACBuy) establishes contracts for a variety of products and services through competitive solicitations. Member governments are able to use the contracts to make purchases. HGACBuy received and opened twenty bids for Refuse Handling Equipment on March 12, 2020. The following companies submitted bids:

Amrep Manufacturing Co., LLC	Ontario, CA
Bridgeport Truck Mfg., Inc., dba Bridgeport Mfg., Inc.	Breckenridge, TX
BTE Body Co., Inc.	Irving, TX
Commercial Specialty Truck Holdings, dba E-Z Pack Refuse Hauling Solutions, LLC & Continental Mixer Solutions, LLC	Cynthiana, KY
Curbtender, Inc.	Cedar Falls, IA
Galfab, LLC *	Winamac, IN
GSP Marketing, Inc.	Somerset, PA
H. Barber & Sons, Inc.	Naugatuck, CT
Hol-Mac Corp.	Bay Springs, MS
Kann Manufacturing Corp.	Guttenberg, IA
Kassbohrer All Terrain Vehicles, Inc.	Cartersville, GA
Loadmaster Corp.	Norway, MI
McNeilus Financial, Inc., dba McNeilus Truck & Manufacturing	Dodge Center, MN
Pak-Mor, LTD	Seguin, TX
Petersen Industries, Inc.	Lake Wales, FL
Reliance Environmental Sales, dba Reliance Truck & Equipment	San Antonio, TX
Roll Offs USA, Inc.	Mead, OK
Scranton Manufacturing Co., Inc.	Scranton, IA
Texas Waste Equipment, Inc., dba Heil of Texas	Houston, TX
Wastequip Manufacturing Co., LLC	Statesville, NC

* Joint bid

Current Situation

This contract is a continuation of an existing contract in our portfolio offering a variety of refuse handling equipment. It adds new equipment and one new vendor. All bid responses have been evaluated by H-GAC staff. Twenty bids, consisting of 21 vendors, are being recommended for award. Request authorization of contracts representing the best value for product items as summarized in the Award Recommendation Table and, as may be applicable, to extend contract assignments to other authorized entities during the contract period. If an awarded bidder fails to execute a contract within forty-five days, fails to maintain required licenses, or is determined to be ineligible, authorization is requested to contract with the next lowest responsible bidder.

Funding Source

Participating local government purchasers

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

Request authorization to contract with respondents for Refuse Handling Equipment. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

ATTACHMENTS:

▢ RH08-20 Award Recommendation Table

Cover Memo

RH08-20: Award Recommendation Table

Manufacturer	Product Code	Bidder
A: Front-Loading Bodies		
Amrep	RH0820A01-RH0820A04	Amrep Manufacturing Co., LLC
Bridgeport	RH0820A05-RH0820A08	Bridgeport Truck Mfg., Inc., dba Bridgeport Mfg., Inc.
Curbtender	RH0820A09-RH0820A13	Curbtender, Inc.
E-Z Pack	RH0820A14-RH0820A17	Commercial Specialty Truck Holdings, dba E-Z Pack Refuse Hauling Solutions, LLC & Continental Mixer Solutions, LLC
Heil	RH0820A18-RH0820A46	Texan Waste Equipment, Inc., dba Heil of Texas
Kann	RH0820A47-RH0820A51; RH0820B44 RH0820B45-RH0820B48; RH0820C134-RH0820C142; RH0820D07-RH0820D11	Kann Manufacturing Corp.
McNeilus	RH0820A52-RH0820A62	McNeilus Financial, Inc., dba McNeilus Truck & Manufacturing
New Way	RH0820A63-RH0820A68	Scranton Manufacturing Co., Inc.
Pak-Mor	RH0820A69-RH0820A71	Pak-Mor, LTD
Wittke	RH0820A72-RH0820A94	Reliance Environmental Sales, dba Reliance Truck & Equipment
B: Rear-Loading Bodies		
Curbtender	RH0820B01-RH0820B11	Curbtender, Inc.
E-Z Pack	RH0820B12-RH0820B21	Commercial Specialty Truck Holdings, dba E-Z Pack Refuse Hauling Solutions, LLC & Continental Mixer Solutions, LLC
Heil	RH0820B25-RH0820B43	Texan Waste Equipment, Inc., dba Heil of Texas
Kann	RH0820B44-RH0820B48	Kann Manufacturing Corp.
Leach	RH0820B49-RH0820B85	Reliance Environmental Sales, dba Reliance Truck & Equipment
Loadmaster	RH0820B86-RH0820B103	Loadmaster Corp
McNeilus	RH0820B104-RH0820B120; RH0820B122-RH0820B124	McNeilus Financial, Inc., dba McNeilus Truck & Manufacturing
New Way	RH0820B125-RH0820B135; RH0820B137-RH0820B149	Scranton Manufacturing Co., Inc.
Pac-Mac	RH0820B150-RH0820B159	Hol-Mac Corp.
Pak-Mor	RH0820B160-RH0820B208	Pak-Mor, LTD
C: Side-Loading Bodies		
Amrep	RH0820C01-RH0820C05	Amrep Manufacturing Co., LLC
Bridgeport	RH0820C06-RH0820C24	Bridgeport Truck Mfg., Inc., dba Bridgeport Mfg., Inc.
Curbtender	RH0820C25-RH0820C33; RH0820C35-RH0820C36; RH0820C39-RH0820C51	Curbtender, Inc.

E-Z Pack	RH0820C52-RH0820C55	Commercial Specialty Truck Holdings, dba E-Z Pack Refuse Hauling Solutions, LLC & Continental Mixer Solutions, LLC
GS Products	RH0820C65-RH0820C105	GSP Marketing, Inc.
Heil	RH0820C106-RH0820C133	Texan Waste Equipment, Inc., dba Heil of Texas
Kann	RH0820C134-RH0820C142	Kann Manufacturing Corp.
Labrie	RH0820C143-RH0820C198	Reliance Environmental Sales, dba Reliance Truck & Equipment
Loadmaster	RH0820C199-RH0820C204	Loadmaster Corp.
McNeilus	RH0820C207-RH0820C209; RH0820C212-RH0820C226	McNeilus Financial, Inc., dba McNeilus Truck & Manufacturing
New Way	RH0820C227-RH0820C242	Scranton Manufacturing Co., Inc.
Pak-Mor	RH0820C243-RH0820C245	Pak-Mor, LTD
D: Recycling Bodies		
Bridgeport	RH0820D01-RH0820D02	Bridgeport Truck Mfg., Inc., dba Bridgeport Mfg., Inc.
Heil	RH0820D06	Texan Waste Equipment, Inc., dba Heil of Texas
Kann	RH0820D07-RH0820D11	Kann Manufacturing Corp.
Labrie	RH0820D12-RH0820D20	Reliance Environmental Sales, dba Reliance Truck & Equipment
Loadmaster	RH0820D21-RH0820D28	Loadmaster Corp.
Pak-Mor	RH0820D29-RH0820D31	Pak-Mor, LTD
E: Bulk Waste Grapples		
Epsilon (Palfinger)	RH0820E02-RH0820E18	Texan Waste Equipment, Inc., dba Heil of Texas
Pac-Mac	RH0820E19-RH0820E21	Hol-Mac Corp.
Petersen	RH0820E24-RH0820E36	Petersen Industries, Inc.
F: Hoists: Roll-Off Container Cable Hoists, Hook Hoists		
Amrep	RH0820F01	Amrep Manufacturing Co., LLC
Galfab	RH0820F32-RH0820F43	Galfab, LLC; Box Gang, LLC
Roll Offs USA	RH0820F65-RH0820F66	Roll Offs USA, Inc.
Swaploader	RH0820F67-RH0820F72	BTE Body Co., Inc.
G: Steel Containers: Roll-Off, Side/Front/Rear-Load		
Galfab	RH0820G01-RH0820G52	Galfab, LLC; Box Gang, LLC
Roll Offs USA	RH0820G53-RH0820G83	Roll Offs USA, Inc.
Wastequip	RH0820G84-RH0820G139	Wastequip Manufacturing Co., LLC
H: Compactors / Balers		
Galbreath	RH0820H01-RH0820H10	Wastequip Manufacturing Co., LLC
Galfab	RH0820H11-RH0820H34	Galfab, LLC; Box Gang, LLC
Roll Offs USA	RH0820H96-RH0820H104	Roll Offs USA, Inc.
Wastequip	RH0820H118-RH0820H141	Wastequip Manufacturing Co., LLC
I: Miscellaneous (beach cleaning machinery)		

Beach Tech	RH0820I01-RH0820I07	Kassbohrer All Terrain Vehicles, Inc.
Cherrington	RH0820I08	Kassbohrer All Terrain Vehicles, Inc.
H.Barber	RH0820I09-RH0820I18	H. Barber & Sons, Inc.

HGACBUY - SOLAR PANELS AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT

Background

The H-GAC cooperative purchasing program (HGACBuy) establishes contracts for a variety of products and services through competitive solicitations. Member governments are able to use the contracts to make purchases. HGACBuy received and opened three competitive proposals for Solar Panels and Associated Equipment on March 05, 2020. The following companies submitted proposals:

Axis Solar LLC	Austin, TX
Aberration Inc. dba South Texas Solar Systems, Inc	San Antonio, TX
Stellar Energy	Jacksonville, FL

Current Situation

The addition of these new vendors expands our portfolio of contracts; now including solar panel equipment, systems and installation services. All proposals have been evaluated by H-GAC staff. Three Proposals are being recommended for award. Request authorization to negotiate contracts with each respondent listed in the Contract Award Recommendation Table, and as may be applicable, to extend contract assignments to other authorized entities during the contract period.

Funding Source

Participating local government purchases

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

Request authorization to negotiate a contract with each respondent listed in the Contract Award Recommendation Table for Solar Panels and Associated Equipment. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

ATTACHMENTS:

▯ SP07-20 Award Recommendation Table

Cover Memo

SP07-20 Award Recommendation Table

Proposal	Product Category
Axis Solar LLC	Solar Panels and Associated Equipment
Aberration Inc. dba South Texas Solar Systems, Inc	
Stellar Energy	

H-GAC PLANNING STUDIES BUNDLE #1 BUDGET AMENDMENT

Background

The Houston-Galveston Area Council Planning Studies Bundle #1 consists of four planning studies: Southeast Harris County Sub-regional Study; Regional Goods Movement Plan; Intersection Safety Audits; and Regional Travel Surveys. In May 2019, the Board of Directors authorized H-GAC to enter an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation in the amount of \$5,100,000. In September 2019, the Board of Directors authorized H-GAC to negotiate a contract with a ranked list of consulting firms for the Southeast Harris County Sub-Regional Plan not to exceed \$1,456,337.

Current Situation

In March 2020, H-GAC executed an Advance Funding Agreement and received a Notice to Proceed for Bundle #1 from the Texas Department of Transportation. H-GAC is requesting authorization to amend the executed agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation to increase by \$153,000 to the amount of \$5,253,000 of federal funds for the H-GAC Planning Studies Bundle #1. The proposed increase in federal funds will cover TxDOT's project review costs and higher than expected project costs so that local participating agencies will not have to increase their funding commitment and/or decrease the planned project scope.

Funding Source

Federal Funds

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorization to amend the executed Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation to increase federal funding by \$153,000 to cover TxDOT's project review costs for the Planning Studies Bundle #1; total amount not to exceed \$5,253,000. (Staff Contact: Alan Clark)

H-GAC PLANNING STUDIES BUNDLE #2 BUDGET AMENDMENT

Background

The H-GAC Planning Studies Bundle #2 consists of two planning projects: Montgomery County - Precinct 2 Mobility Plan and Liberty County Mobility Plan. Staff requests Board approval to accept a federal funding increase of \$350,000 to offset project review costs by the Texas Department of Transportation and increased estimated project costs.

Previously, in May 2019, the Board of Directors authorized H-GAC to enter an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (\$800,000 Federal and \$150,000 Local). In July 2019, the Board authorized H-GAC to enter an Interlocal Agreement with Montgomery County to receive \$100,000 for the Montgomery County-Precinct 2 Mobility Plan and enter into Interlocal Agreement with Liberty County to receive \$50,000 for the Liberty County Mobility Plan. In October 2019, the Board authorized H-GAC to negotiate contracts with ranked consulting firms for amounts not to exceed \$500,000 to conduct the Montgomery County-Precinct 2 Mobility Plan and not to exceed \$450,000 for the Liberty County Mobility Plan.

Current Situation

In March 2020, H-GAC executed an Advance Funding Agreement and received a Notice to Proceed on Bundle #2 from the Texas Department of Transportation. H-GAC is requesting to amend the executed agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation to increase the amount to \$1,150,000 of federal funds. This proposed increase of \$350,000 in federal funds will cover TxDOT's project review costs and additional planning costs for the Bundle#2.

Local participating agencies will not have to increase their funding commitment to these studies. To simplify its reimbursements to H-GAC, the Texas Department of Transportation has also requested H-GAC remove from this agreement local funding contributions to the project. These funds will, however, be used to support the overall cost of the planning study as originally planned.

Funding Source

Federal Funds - Texas Department of Transportation (\$1,150,000)

Local Funds (not included in Advanced Funding Agreement) – Montgomery County (\$100,000) and Liberty County (\$50,000)

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorizations to amend the Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation to increase federal funding by \$350,000, total amount not exceed \$1,150,000; and to remove from the Advance Funding Agreement \$150,000 of local funds. Local funds will still be used to reimburse staff and consultant expenses for the project. (Staff Contact: Alan Clark)

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - APRIL 2020

ATTACHMENTS:

▢ April 2020 Financial Report

Cover Memo

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
For the Four Months Ended April 2020

Page 2 of 3

		Budget		Actual		Variance	
		Year to date		Year to date		Dollar	%
Combined Revenues and Expenditures							
	Revenues	\$	119,245,776	\$	94,809,383	\$	(24,436,393)
	Expenditures		(118,766,849)		(93,430,137)		25,336,712
							-21%
	Change in Combined Fund Balance	\$	478,928	\$	1,379,247	\$	900,319

Change in Fund Balance by Fund Type							
	Change in fund balance - General Fund	\$	53,809	\$	379,286	\$	325,477
	Change in fund balance - Gulf Coast Regional 911		207,428		494,849		287,421
	Change in fund balance - Enterprise Fund		469,167		505,112		35,945
	Total Change in Fund Balances	\$	730,403	\$	1,379,247	\$	648,843

Variance Analysis

The presentation of the change in fund balance by fund type is intended to highlight the effects of revenue and expenditure transactions by fund. The General Fund (GF) consists of those funds not associated with grant programs or enterprise activities. The Special Revenue Fund (SRF) consists of those funds that are restricted for a specific purpose. HGAC's grant programs are in this fund. The Enterprise Fund is used to track activities of the Cooperative Purchasing program and the Energy Purchasing Corporation. The variances of specific revenues and expenditures are explained on the second page of this report.

*** The Cooperative Purchasing program has contributed \$497,519 an increase toward the Enterprise fund balance YTD, and the Energy Purchasing Corporation is reflecting a \$7,593 an increase to the Enterprise fund balance.

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
For the Four Months Ended April 2020

	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Dollar	%
Revenues					
General and Enterprise Fund					
Membership dues	\$ 395,538	\$ 395,538	\$ 388,541	\$ (6,997)	-2%
HGAC Energy Purchasing Corporation (a)	130,000	43,333	30,429	(12,904)	-30%
Cooperative Purchasing fees	5,500,000	1,833,333	1,775,328	(58,005)	-3%
Gulf Coast Regional 911 fees	2,489,131	829,710	1,271,508	441,798	53%
Interest Income	175,000	58,333	43,220	(15,113)	-26%
Other (b)	3,283,164	1,094,388	468,227	(626,161)	-57%
revenues	\$ 11,972,833	\$ 4,254,636	\$ 3,977,253	\$ (277,384)	-7%
Special Revenue Fund					
Federal Grant (c)	\$ 3,556,065	\$ 1,185,355	\$ 86,946	\$ (1,098,409)	-93%
State Grants	341,417,355	113,805,785	90,745,184	(23,060,601)	-20%
Total Special Revenue Fund revenues	\$ 344,973,420	\$ 114,991,140	\$ 90,832,131	\$ (24,159,009)	-21%
Total Revenues	\$ 356,946,253	\$ 119,245,776	\$ 94,809,383	\$ (24,436,393)	-20%
Expenditures					
Personnel (d)	\$ 26,242,846	\$ 8,747,615	\$ 8,052,988	\$ (694,628)	-8%
Pass-through funds - grant	316,491,931	105,497,310	82,336,889	(23,160,422)	-22%
Consultant and contract services (e)	5,303,469	1,767,823	1,517,817	(250,006)	-14%
Lease of office space	2,126,396	708,799	399,701	(309,098)	-44%
Equipment (b)	1,872,750	624,250	49,868	(574,382)	-92%
Travel	555,697	185,232	64,587	(120,646)	-65%
Other expense	3,707,457	1,235,819	1,008,288	(227,531)	-18%
Total Expenditures	\$ 356,300,546	\$ 118,766,849	\$ 93,430,137	\$ (25,336,712)	-21%
Excess of Revenues over(under) Expenditures	\$ 645,707	\$ 478,928	\$ 1,379,247	\$ 900,319	

Variances:

a) The volatility of the energy sector has caused our revenue picture to be somewhat unpredictable for the Energy Purchasing Corp.

We anticipate that oil prices will stabilize over the next few months and we will adjust our budget accordingly.

Energy conservation also seems to be on the rise with new technology including LED lighting, motion lighting, etc. on the rise by governmental entities.

b) Other revenue and equipment expense are both lagging behind. Prior to COVID-19, H-GAC had an assesment of equipment and facility costs that have been re-examined in light of current conditions. We are looking at technology and space options, and will be making revisions and recommendations when the mid-year budget revision is presented in July.

c) Federal grant revenue is primarily focused in our Transportation program in both the EPA and Department of Energy programs. We anticipate an increase of activity in both of these programs in June 2020.

d) Personnel expenses are behind because of H-GAC's biweekly pay schedule and the posting of payroll disbursements each month. These expenses should be close to estimated levels by the end of May.

e) Consultant and contract services have been reduced during the office shut-down but should resume when the office reopens.

HOMELAND SECURITY - MANVEL TOWER PROJECT

Background

The Homeland Security Grants Division solicited applications from Regional Councils of Government for projects supporting efforts to improve or sustain interoperable emergency radio infrastructure. State funds for these projects are authorized under the Texas General Appropriations Act, Article I, Rider 26 for Trusteed Programs within the Office of the Governor. As funding for this competitive program is not expected to be renewed, H-GAC worked with the Regional Homeland Security Council and county radio system managers to develop and submit multiple project applications.

Current Situation

H-GAC applied for funding to construct a self-supporting radio tower in Brazoria County. If funded, the project would add additional public safety radio coverage for Brazoria, Fort Bend, and Harris Counties.

Proposed Budget

Equipment and Construction	\$1,999,997.00
Personnel	<u>\$14,170.48</u>
Total	\$2,014,167.48

Funding Source

Homeland Security Grants Division, Office of the Governor

Budgeted

No

Action Requested

Request authorization to submit an application for the Manvel Tower Site Project; amount not to exceed \$2,014,167. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

HOMELAND SECURITY - PLUM GROVE TOWER PROJECT

Background

The Homeland Security Grants Division solicited applications from Regional Councils of Government for projects supporting efforts to improve or sustain interoperable emergency radio infrastructure. State funds for these projects are authorized under the Texas General Appropriations Act, Article I, Rider 26 for Trusteed Programs within the Office of the Governor.

Current Situation

H-GAC applied for funding to construct a self-supporting radio tower in Liberty County. If funded, the project would add additional public safety radio coverage for Liberty and Montgomery Counties.

Proposed Budget

Equipment and Construction	\$1,725,000.00
Personnel	\$14,170.48
Total	<u>\$1,739,170.48</u>

Funding Source

Homeland Security Grants Division, Governor's Office

Budgeted

No

Action Requested

Request authorization to submit an application for the Plum Grove Tower Project; amount not to exceed \$1,739,170. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

HOMELAND SECURITY - TRI-COUNTY TOWER PROJECT

Background

The Homeland Security Grants Division solicited applications from Regional Councils of Government for projects supporting efforts to improve or sustain interoperable emergency radio infrastructure. State funds for these projects are authorized under the Texas General Appropriations Act, Article I, Rider 26 for Trusteed Programs within the Office of the Governor. As funding for this competitive program is not expected to be renewed, H-GAC worked with the Regional Homeland Security Council and county radio system managers to develop multiple project applications.

Current Situation

H-GAC applied for funding to construct a self-supporting radio tower in Austin County. If funded, the project would add additional public safety radio coverage for Austin, Wharton, and Colorado Counties.

Proposed Budget

Equipment and Construction	\$1,412,962.73
Personnel	\$14,170.48
Total	<u>\$1,427,133.21</u>

Funding Source

Homeland Security Grants Division, Governor's Office

Budgeted

No

Action Requested

Request authorization to submit an application for the Tri-County Tower Project; amount not to exceed \$1,427,133. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

HOMELAND SECURITY - WALKER COUNTY MICROWAVE UPGRADE PROJECT

Background

The Homeland Security Grants Division solicited applications from Regional Councils of Government for projects supporting efforts to improve or sustain interoperable emergency radio infrastructure. State funds for these projects are authorized under the Texas General Appropriations Act, Article I, Rider 26 for Trusteed Programs within the Office of the Governor. As funding for this competitive program is not expected to be renewed, H-GAC worked with the Regional Homeland Security Council and county radio system managers to develop and submit multiple project applications.

Current Situation

H-GAC applied for funding to upgrade the microwave equipment in Walker County to make the system compatible with other systems in the area.

Proposed Budget

Equipment	\$442,145.00
Contractual and Professional Services	\$89,168.00
Personnel	<u>\$14,170.48</u>
Total	\$545,483.48

Funding Source

Homeland Security Grants Division, Office of the Governor

Budgeted

No

Action Requested

Request authorization to submit an application for the Walker County Microwave Update Project; amount not to exceed \$545,483. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

FISCAL YEAR 2020 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM PRIORITY LIST

Background

The H-GAC region is expected to receive an allocation of the Fiscal Year 2020 State Homeland Security Program grant; however, due to the changes in the Fiscal Year 2020 Homeland Security Grant Program Notice of Funding Opportunity the current regional allocation is unknown. The United States Department of Homeland Security has instructed each state to proceed with drafting investment justifications for proposed Fiscal Year 2020 projects in accordance with last year's guidelines. As in previous years, prospective projects were prioritized by the Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Council and approved based on alignment with state, national and regional priorities (see eligible activities below), project quality, sustainability and potential impact on multiple jurisdictions and/or multiple capability gaps.

Project applications were submitted within one of seven eligible activities as listed in the Fiscal Year 2020 Request for Applications:

- Critical Infrastructure
- Cybersecurity
- Intelligence and Information Sharing
- Interoperable Communications
- Operational Coordination
- Special Response Teams and First Responder Capabilities (including Border Security)
- State, Regional and Local Planning

Current Situation

The Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Council reviewed the eligible Fiscal Year 2020 State Homeland Security Program grant applications and made funding recommendations for 37 projects on March 26, 2020. The Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Council drafted and approved a scoring methodology over the course of several meetings in Calendar Year 2019. The Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Council's priority list and funding recommendations can be found in the table on page 2 of this item (the red line denotes the Fiscal Year 2019 allocation amount; however, the Fiscal Year 2020 allocation is unknown).

Funding Source

Homeland Security Grants Division, Office of the Governor

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request adoption of Fiscal Year 2020 State Homeland Security Program grant projects, as recommended by Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Council. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

ATTACHMENTS:

- ps-Homeland-Security-2020-Funding TABLE ONLY Table

Table 1 – FY 2019 State Homeland Security Program Grant Priority List, Prioritized by the Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Council on March 26, 2020

Rank	Applicant	Project Title	Recommended Funded
1	Houston-Galveston Area Council	FY 2020 H-GAC Regional Homeland Security Planning Initiative	\$179,275.67
2	Wharton County	Dispatch Console Replacement	\$60,529.36
3	Houston, City of	Building CBRNE Capabilities for a Type I SRG Team - Emerging Threats	\$64,000.00
4	Austin County	Interoperable Communications - APX Radios	\$116,346.42
5	Houston, City of	Houston Police Department Bomb Squad Enhancements - Emerging Threats	\$115,400.00
6	Waller County	Waller County Office of Emergency Management Radio Program	\$57,347.28
7	Houston, City of	City of Houston - Continued Support for RCPI Planning	\$127,164.12
8	Houston, City of	Decontamination Prime Mover for a Type I Hazmat team - Emerging Threat	\$92,406.00
9	Waller Harris ESD200	Communications Grant	\$90,392.96
10	Dayton Volunteer Fire Department	Interoperable Communication Expansion	\$83,288.14
11	Baytown, City of	BPD: Sustain Type I Regional SWAT	\$121,500.00

(over)

12	Matagorda County	First Responder Radios	\$143,235.15
13	Montgomery County	MC CBRN PPE	\$60,000.00
14	Harris County	HCSO Bomb Unit Detection Equipment	\$78,000.00
15	Harris County	HCSO SWAT Unit Training and Tactical Equipment	\$73,000.00
16	Colorado County	Colorado County Communications Sustainment and Encryption Project	\$32,608.56
17	Baytown, City of	BFD: Sustain Type II Regional HazMat Team	\$47,810.30
18	Harris County	HCSO Air Operations Section UAS Detection and Mitigation	\$200,000.00
19	Montgomery County	MC OTAR AES	\$100,000.00
20	West Columbia Police Department	Handheld Radio replacement and upgrade	\$74,766.84
21	Harris County	Pct 7 Portable Radio Equipment	\$46,813.00
22	Patton Village, City of	Regional Strategic Response Team Equipment Project	\$34,970.00
23	League City, City of	EOD Response Vehicles	\$130,580.00
24	Harris County	Harris County Marine Unit ROV	\$101,700.00
25	Harris County	Mobile Radiograph System for Mass Fatality Incidents	\$21,722.54
26	Huntsville, City of	Cybersecurity Software Solution	\$31,500.00
27	Missouri City, City of	EOC Enhancement	\$47,069.80

28	League City, City of	Command Center and Investigations Trailer	\$64,000.00
29	Houston, City of	HPD's HSU - Critical Infrastructure Assessment Tools; Information and Intelligence Sharing	\$128,178.00
30	Pasadena, City of	Pasadena Mobile Command Trailer	\$107,944.00
31	Pasadena, City of	Pasadena Cyber Security Project	\$73,746.00
32	Mont Belvieu, City of	Unmanned Aircraft System	\$35,814.45
33	Montgomery County	MC Intel Analyst	\$156,390.00
34	Waller County	Homeland Security in an Adversarial Justice System (Courts and Courthouses)	\$64,900.00
35	Jacinto City, City of	Jacinto City Fixed Facility Protection and Soft Target Program	\$93,415.21
36	Montgomery County	MC Cybersecurity Network Management and Application Control Software	\$140,000.00
37	Southside Place, City of	Deployment of a Security Tower & Street Barricades to Protect Soft Targets	\$169,868.60

(over)

GULF COAST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Background

The Gulf Coast Economic Development District's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy provides a regional framework for economic development and is a vehicle through which federal agencies such as the Economic Development Administration evaluate requests for grant assistance.

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy analyzes factors impacting the regional economy, population, environment, infrastructure, industry sectors, and workforce. It also identifies economic development goals and strategies, and outlines a plan of action for implementation.

Current Situation

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy is updated every three to five years to include the latest data and revised goals and strategies. The goals identified in 2020-2024 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy update are:

- 1) Our region is resilient and adaptive to economic downturns, natural disasters, and new opportunities.
- 2) Our region has a diverse economy and skilled workforces that support businesses, innovation, and entrepreneurship.
- 3) Our region's residents have access to education, training, jobs, and business opportunities that support a good quality of life and financial stability.
- 4) Our region's transportation and infrastructure promote effective goods movement and is well connected to national and global destinations.
- 5) Our region's local governments and economic development organizations have access to data, tools, and solutions that facilitate informed decisions on funding and investment decisions.
- 6) Our region's residents live in safe, healthy communities with transportation options and have access to services and amenities that support a high quality of life.
- 7) Our region's water and waste-water infrastructure support current and future demands, while promoting the growth of healthy, resilient, and economically dynamic communities.
- 8) Our region values its unique ecosystems and understands the ecological, economic and cultural benefits they provide.

The update also incorporates guidance on the use of Opportunity Zone investments in the region. The Gulf Coast Economic Development District adopted the updated 2020-2024 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy at their April 3, 2020 board meeting.

Funding Source

The Economic Development Administration with local in-kind match funding

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

Request that the Gulf Coast Economic Development District's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy is found consistent with H-GAC's plans, policies, and review criteria; including Our Great Region 2040. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)

HARRIS COUNTY SMALL BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAM - ADDITIONAL UNDERWRITER

Background

The COVID-19 Pandemic continues to cause economic injury to many small businesses in the region. Many businesses are attempting to maintain operations in new ways while trying to keep their workers on board, meet existing operational costs and cover debt obligations. Many businesses are struggling to find financial resources to assist them in order to remain open. Access to traditional resources often proves daunting.

At the March 17 meeting, the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Board of Directors approved a limited delegation of authority, whereby the Board delegated temporary authority to the Chair, Vice Chair and Chair Elect to authorize related procurements or agreements which require immediate action. This item is in accordance with said action.

Current Situation

In order expedite the loan review process, H-GAC completed a supplemental procurement to secure additional underwriting contractors to supplement our internal capacity. The selected company is Synerlock Corporation. Synerlock is a local Houston company.

Funding Source

Harris County

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request ratification of agreement with Synerlock Corporation; amount not to exceed \$100,000.
(Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

NORTH HOUSTON COMMUNITIES TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES PLAN

Background

In July 2019, H-GAC's Transportation Policy Council (TPC) committed \$1.5 million to support identification of priority transportation needs in communities adjacent to IH-45 North between IH-610 North and IH-10. The TPC also pledged an additional \$50M for the implementation of eligible transportation services and facilities which would address the priorities identified through the planning activity. The TPC took this unprecedented step in recognition of likely significant, adverse impacts to these communities which could result from proposed plans to reconstruct and widen IH-45 North.

Current Situation

The City of Houston has identified alternative design concepts for the reconstruction of the IH-45 North corridor which it believes could mitigate much of the potential adverse impacts of the current TxDOT plans. TxDOT is considering these and other recommendations received and will ultimately be responsible for mitigating (to the extent possible) any adverse impacts resulting from reconstruction of the IH-45 North corridor.

The community planning activities proposed by H-GAC are, however, focused on identifying and prioritizing multimodal transportation improvements within impacted neighborhoods largely adjacent to IH-45 North between IH-610 North and IH-10. The proposed plan will identify short and long-term transportation investments which will improve transportation connectivity, safety, air quality, and quality of life. Robust community engagement will be an essential component of this study. With the support of the City of Houston and community leaders, this plan will result in prioritized list of transportation improvements that can be implemented utilizing the \$50M approved by the Transportation Policy Council. The \$50M will not be used as a substitute for any required mitigation activities associated with the reconstruction of IH-45 North.

H-GAC staff recommends entering into an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to receive \$1.5 million to conduct the North Houston Communities Transportation Priorities Plan.

Funding Source

Federal - Texas Department of Transportation Surface Transportation Block Grant Funds

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorization to enter an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation to receive \$1.5 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant funds for the North Houston Communities Transportation Priorities Plan. (Staff Contact: Alan Clark)

RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Background

N/A

Current Situation

N/A

Funding Source

N/A

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

No action requested. For information only. (Staff Contact: Chuck Wemple)

H-GAC SPOTLIGHT - TRAVEL DEMAND MANAGEMENT

Background

The Houston-Galveston Area Council Travel Demand Management team houses multiple programs including active transportation and transit planning, as well as travel demand management. We focus on expanding the mobility options that are available in our region and increasing awareness of these options through education and outreach. Our work involves helping local governments, employers, schools, universities and other entities achieve organizational and community goals by shifting how people travel in the region.

Current Situation

Typically, 4.2% of commuters in our region telework on a daily basis. COVID-19 has shown how telework can be an important tool for resiliency and business continuity in the face of an emergency. Businesses that are able to survive and thrive in virtual environments are at a distinct advantage right now and in the foreseeable future.

Since COVID-19, much of our focus has been to provide education and outreach to increase our region's capacity for telework. We have launched a new website, www.yourcommutesolution.org, that features resources on the benefits of telework, a reading list for telework, and draft telework agreement and policy forms. We also link to multiple recorded trainings that are now available online, and over the next few weeks we will be working with employers to help them plan for how employees can commute back to work more safely.

Any employer or local government is welcome to sign-up as a Commute Solutions Partner to engage in these services or work with our team. Commute Solutions staff are available to assist and can provide customized training, surveys, and more.

For more information about this program, please contact Jamila Owens at Jamila.Owens@h-gac.com or 832-681-2522.

Funding Source

N/A

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

No action requested. For information only. (Staff Contact: Alan Clark)

CURRENT AND UPCOMING H-GAC ACTIVITIES

Background

N/A

Current Situation

N/A

Funding Source

N/A

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

Report on current and upcoming H-GAC activities. (Staff Contact: Chuck Wemple)

2020 H-GAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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