



City of San Antonio

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 20-5973

Type: Staff Briefing - Without Ordinance

In control: Culture and Neighborhood Services Committee

On agenda: 10/5/2020

Title: Briefing and discussion on Emergency Housing Assistance Program eligibility. [Lori Houston, Assistant City Manager; Verónica R. Soto, FAICP, Director, Neighborhood & Housing Services]

Sponsors:

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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DEPARTMENT:

Neighborhood & Housing Services Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD:

Verónica R. Soto, FAICP, Neighborhood & Housing Services Department Director

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:

Citywide

SUMMARY:

Briefing and discussion on Emergency Housing Assistance Program eligibility.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In response to COVID 19, City Council approved an ordinance on April 23, 2020 that created the COVID-19 Emergency Housing Assistance Program (EHAP). The EHAP Budget is \$76.6 million. As of September 30, 2020, the EHAP has assisted 17,140 households and provided \$48.8 million in assistance.

The chart below provides the breakout by City Council District.

Emergency Housing Assistance Program				
CD	Avg AMI %	Approved	Avg HH Size	Approved \$

1	27.7	1,710	3	\$4,726,377
2	28.2	2,220	3	\$6,199,049
3	29.4	1,904	3	\$5,264,495
4	29.2	1,535	3	\$4,494,390
5	24.5	1,313	3	\$3,389,365
6	31.7	1,762	3	\$5,132,930
7	28.7	1,853	3	\$5,247,379
8	31.9	1,996	2	\$5,790,016
9	31.7	1,341	2	\$4,031,399
10	32.2	1,506	3	\$4,557,054
Totals		17,140		\$48,832,454

ISSUE:

As staff enters Phase 3 of the EHAP, the priority remains on the most vulnerable in our community. Effective October 1, 2020 the following eligibility criteria is utilized for EHAP Phase 3 applicants:

- Reside within the San Antonio city limits
- Provide documentation of hardship due to COVID-19
- Assistance is available for both rental and mortgage
- Must make less than 80% of the AMI
- Assistance is tiered based on the applicants AMI:
 - If an applicant's AMI is at or below 50% AMI, the applicant is eligible for 2 months of rental or mortgage assistance, utility (SAWS, CPS, Internet) assistance, and a cash grant (up to \$300). If a third month of assistance is needed, the applicant is eligible for a \$500 cash grant only.
 - If an applicant's AMI is between 51% and 80%, the applicant is eligible for 2 months rental or mortgage assistance. If a third month of assistance is needed, the applicant is eligible for a \$250 cash grant only.

Emergency Housing Assistance Program						
AMI	Months 1 and 2					Month 3
	Rent/Mortg	SAWS	CPS	Internet	Cash Grant	Cash Grant
<50%	X	X	X	X	Up to \$300	\$500
51% - 80%	X					\$250

Residents who received assistance in Phase 1 or Phase 2 will be eligible for 1 month of cash assistance in alignment with the month 3 amounts in above table.

For those cases that proceed to the eviction courts as part of our right to counsel program, defendants will be eligible for up to \$5,000 in rental assistance to help address arrears.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.