



# City of San Antonio

## Agenda Memorandum

**File Number:**20-5973

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**Agenda Item Number:** 6.

**Agenda Date:** 10/5/2020

**In Control:** Culture and Neighborhood Services Committee

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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
<b>Totals</b>		<b>17,140</b>		<b>\$48,832,454</b>

#### 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.

<b>Emergency Housing Assistance Program</b>						
<b>AMI</b>	<b>Months 1 and 2</b>					<b>Month 3</b>
	<b>Rent/Mortg</b>	<b>SAWS</b>	<b>CPS</b>	<b>Internet</b>	<b>Cash Grant</b>	<b>Cash Grant</b>
<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.