



City of Houston Council Committee on Quality of Life

Council Member Julian Ramirez, Chair

Vice Mayor Pro Tem Amy Peck, Vice Chair

Council Member Carolyn Evans-Shabazz

Council Member Mary Nan Huffman

Council Member Willie Davis

Notice of Hybrid City Council Committee Meeting

Monday, April 7, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.

**This meeting will be held in the Anna Russell City Hall Council Chamber,
901 Bagby St., 2nd Floor, Houston, Texas 77002**

This meeting will offer City of Houston Council Members and their staff the options to participate via videoconference or in-person. The Chair, as presiding officer of the Committee, will be physically present in Council Chambers.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 551.127 of the Texas Government Code applicable to a governmental body that extends into three or more counties, all other committee members have the option to participate in-person or virtually via Microsoft Teams. This meeting will also be broadcast on HTC, the City of Houston's Municipal Channel.

To sign up for Public Comment, please fill out the form below by 5 p.m. on Friday, April 4, 2025:

<https://www.houstontx.gov/council/committees/speakers-qol.html>

Presentation handouts will be available at:

<https://www.houstontx.gov/council/committees/qualityoflife.html>

I. Welcoming remarks

- Chairman Julian Ramirez
- Vice Chair Amy Peck

II. Public Services

- a. The Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) recommends Council approval of an Ordinance authorizing a First Amendment to the Contract for Strategic Homeless Planning Services between the City of Houston and **The Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County** (Coalition) to extend the term of the Contract; and provide up to an additional \$130,000.00 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for strategic homeless planning services. (All Districts)

- b. HCD recommends Council approval of an Ordinance authorizing a First Amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement between the City of Houston and **SEARCH Homeless Services**, providing up to an additional \$1,111,687.00 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Homeless Housing and Services Funds (HHSP), and TIRZ Affordable Housing Funds for a program that will providing 770 individuals with housing case management, navigation services, and engagement services through its Engagement Center. (District I)

- c. HCD recommends Council approval of an Ordinance authorizing an Initial Subrecipient Agreement between the City of Houston (City) and **SEARCH Homeless Services** (SEARCH), providing up to \$925,000.00 in Emergency Solutions Grant – Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing (ESG-RUSH) funds, for a program providing 40 households with rapid re-housing case management and rental assistance. (District I)

Michael Nichols, Director

Melody Barr, Assistant Director

III. Director’s Comments, Michael Nichols

IV. Public Comments



CITY OF HOUSTON – CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: 04/16/2025

District ALL

Item Creation Date: 02/06/2025

HCD25-26

Coalition for the Homeless of Houston / Harris County

Strategic Homeless Planning Services

Agenda Item: II.a.

Background:

The Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) recommends Council approval of an Ordinance authorizing a First Amendment to the Contract for Strategic Homeless Planning Services between the City of Houston (City) and the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County (Coalition) to extend the term of the Contract; and provide up to an additional \$130,000.00 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for strategic homeless planning services.

As the Lead Agency for The Way Home, Coalition is the sole-source provider for data collection and analysis on homeless response system trends that guide the development, advocacy, and coordination of community strategies to prevent and effectively end homelessness. Their collaboration with homeless services providers, affordable housing providers, medical care facilities, community stakeholders, those with lived experience, non-profits and for-profit businesses allows for greater alignment in every aspect of planning and decision-making necessary for providing critical homeless services and responding to emerging issues in the homeless response system.

CATEGORY	AMOUNT	PERCENT
Program Services	\$117,000.00	90.00%
Administration	\$13,000.00	10.00%
Total	\$130,000.00	100.00%

The Coalition has received funding through the city for various grants since 2005. The initial Agreement term was from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025, but services did not start until June 1, 2024, after council approval. The term was administratively extended to May 31, 2025. This First Amendment will extend the current Agreement term by an additional 12 months to end on May 31, 2026.

No Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) was performed as the agency is a sole-source provider being the designated Lead Agency. There were no findings in the most recent annual compliance monitoring review. As of January 2025, Coalition has utilized 55.83% of their funds.

Fiscal Note:

No Fiscal Note is required on grant items.

This item will be reviewed by the Quality-of-Life Committee on April 7, 2025.

Michael Nichols, Director

Prior Council Action:

5/21/2024 (O) 2024-0352

Amount of Funding:

\$130,000.00 Federal Government - Grant Funded (5000)

Contact Information:

Roxanne Lawson,
832-394-6307



CITY OF HOUSTON – CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: 4/9/2025
District: I
Item Creation Date: 2/26/2025
HCD25-33
SEARCH Homeless Services
Agenda Item: II.b.

Background:

The Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) recommends Council approval of an Ordinance authorizing a First Amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement between the City of Houston (City) and SEARCH Homeless Services, providing up to an additional \$1,111,687.00 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Homeless Housing and Services Funds (HHSP), and TIRZ Affordable Housing Funds for a program that will serve a total of approximately 770 individuals. Services will include housing case management, navigation services, and Engagement Center services.

SEARCH’s provides interventions, assessments, and referrals to services for homeless individuals living on the streets. The Engagement Center is a day shelter and serves as a point of entry for a continuum of services that facilitates introduction toward stabilized employment, housing, and self-sufficiency. The Housing Case Management Program provides long-term housing and supportive services to formerly homeless individuals and families to assist them in achieving housing stability.

CATEGORY	CDBG	HHSP	TIRZ	TOTAL	PERCENT
Program	\$507,191.60	\$400,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$1,007,191.60	90.60%
Administration	\$104,495.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$104,495.40	9.40%
Total	\$611,687.00	\$400,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$1,111,687.00	100.00%

HCD conducted a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Public Services funding in December 2022. SEARCH was selected with the option to renew for up to one-year at the City’s discretion.

The initial Agreement period was from February 1, 2024 – January 31, 2025, and was administratively extended to April 30, 2025. This First Amendment Agreement term will provide funding through January 31, 2026. SEARCH Homeless Services has received funding from the City of Houston since 1996. There were no findings or concerns in the most recent compliance monitoring. As of January 2025, SEARCH met 144% of their goal and utilized approximately 97% of their total funding.

Fiscal Note:

No fiscal note is required for grant items.
No significant Fiscal Operating impact is anticipated as a result of this project.

This item will be reviewed by the Quality-of-Life Committee on April 7, 2025.

Michael Nichols, Director

Amount of Funding

\$611,687.00 Federal Government – Grant Fund – (5000)
\$400,000.00 State – Grant Fund (5010)
\$100,000.00 TIRZ Affordable Housing Fund (2409)

Prior Council Action

12/19/2023 (O) 2023-1134

Contact Information:

Roxanne Lawson,
(832) 394-6307



CITY OF HOUSTON – CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: 4/16/2025

District: I

Item Creation Date: 3/31/2025

HCD25-50

SEARCH Homeless Services – ESG-RUSH Rapid Re-Housing

Agenda Item: II.c.

Background:

The Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) recommends Council approval of an Ordinance authorizing an Initial Subrecipient Agreement between the City of Houston (City) and SEARCH Homeless Services (SEARCH), providing up to \$925,000.00 in Emergency Solutions Grant – Rapid Unsheltered Survivor Housing (ESG-RUSH) funds, for a program providing rapid re-housing case management and rental assistance to 40 households.

ESG-RUSH funding is a special ESG grant administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for areas that are identified as eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Individual Assistance when a “major disaster” is declared under the Stafford Act to address the needs of individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness in a declared disaster area and have unmet needs. HUD awarded the City ESG-RUSH funding in response to FEMA DR-4781-TX Texas Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding and FEMA DR-4798-TX Texas Hurricane Beryl.

SEARCH will quickly move people impacted by the recent disasters who are experiencing homelessness in the Downtown Houston area into permanent housing by providing rental assistance and housing-stability case management services.

CATEGORY	AMOUNT	PERCENT
Program	\$925,000.00	100.00%
Administration	\$0.00	0.00%
Total	\$925,000.00	100.00%

In March 2025, in partnership with Harris County and the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County, the City invited organizations to submit proposals under a Request for Expression of Interest (REI). SEARCH Homeless Services was one of the agencies that responded and was selected from the applicants that proposed rapid re-housing activities.

This Agreement will provide funding for approximately 12 months, from the date of Countersignature to April 30, 2026. SEARCH Homeless Services has received funding from the City of Houston since 1996.

Fiscal Note:

No fiscal note is required for grant items.

This item will be reviewed by the Quality-of-Life Committee on April 7, 2025.

Michael Nichols, Director

Amount of Funding

\$925,000.00 Federal Government – Grant Fund – (5000)

Contact Information:

Roxanne Lawson,
(832) 394-6307