

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Ordinance adopting the Human Services Commission's 2021-2022 HB 1590 funding recommendations; authorizing the City Manager or his designee to enter into contracts with local human services agencies in accordance with the recommendations; and amending Ordinance 6557, adopted December 14, 2020, as previously amended, to increase appropriations to the 2021-2022 Housing Trust Fund and Human Services Fund each in the amount of \$1,659,422.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Ordinance adopts the Human Services Commission's 2021-2022 HB 1590 funding recommendations as presented to Council at the July 19 study session, and authorizes the City Manager to enter into contracts with local human services agencies in accordance with said recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Ordinance No. 6596.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

On July 19, Council was provided with an overview of HB 1590 services funding recommendations approved by the Human Services Commission for behavioral health and housing related services under the following priority areas of behavioral health services, supportive services, and rental assistance. Council provided direction for staff to prepare an ordinance to allocate HB 1590 dollars in the amount of \$1,659,422 for these priority areas.

Behavioral Health and Housing Related Services Funds

The Human Services Commission reviewed 25 applications over two virtual meetings to draft their recommendations related to the RFP entitled "2021-2022 Behavioral Health and Housing Related Services" funding. The funding requests that were received totaled \$3,314,008, which is over \$1.7 million more than the available budget of \$1.6 million. Funds will be awarded to local agencies operating programs that address the following service areas as specified by this funding source. These are:

- **Behavioral Health Services:** Same day mental health and substance use disorder assessments and treatment; culturally responsive behavioral health services designed to meet historically underserved populations' needs; services collocated at facilities and/or housing properties; and behavioral health therapeutic case management.
- **Supportive Services:** Case management that helps an individual or family achieve housing stability.

- **Rental Assistance:** Rental assistance; funds to assist with move-in costs.

Additional outreach was conducted to agencies that provide services to support Bellevue's diverse populations, many of whom have been disproportionately impacted and historically underserved: people of color, LGBTQIA population, people with disabilities, older adults, and youth. The Commission applied an equity lens to all of the applications that they considered. Of the 25 applications reviewed, eight were submitted by agencies that are led by and for Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC). Of these, five were recommended for funding for a total of \$357,425, which represents 21.54 percent of all recommendations.

The Commission's recommendations reflect their particular focus on the increased need for culturally responsive behavioral health services. They also recognized that many Bellevue residents are still struggling to find rental and move in assistance and recommended that almost half of the available funds (48.8 percent) be allocated to community organizations for this purpose. Only four applications were received for the supportive services category and three were recommended for funding, acknowledging the importance of case management services that help individuals and families find and maintain housing stability.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

The Human Services Commission is governed by Chapter 3.61 of the Bellevue City Code, which states that it shall review all requests for funding of human services and make recommendations to Council. See BCC 3.61.070(B).

As part of the HB 1590 Interest Statement adopted by the City Council on February 1, staff presented a supporting document that brings together the adopted policies, identified needs, and strategies that guide the projects, programs, and services that may be implemented by funding under RCW 82.14.530. This consolidated policy document may be found in the Council Library.

Fiscal Impact

This action will authorize execution of HB 1590 behavioral health and housing-related services contracts totaling \$1,659,422 in 2021. This action authorizes the City to amend the 2021-2022 Housing Trust Fund and the Human Services Fund by \$1,659,422 each. The specific funding commitments will be budgeted as outlined in Attachment A and as presented by staff at the July 19 study session.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Ordinance adopting the Human Services Commission's 2021-2022 HB 1590 funding recommendations; authorizing the City Manager or his designee to enter into contracts with local human services agencies in accordance with the recommendations; and amending Ordinance 6557, adopted December 14, 2020, as previously amended, to increase appropriations to the 2021-2022 Housing Trust Fund and Human Services Fund each in the amount of \$1,659,422.
2. Do not adopt the Ordinance and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

A. 2021-2022 Behavioral Health and Housing Related Services Funding Recommendations
Proposed Ordinance No. 6596

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

HB 1590 Interest Statement
Consolidated Policies and Needs for the HB 1590 Interest Statement