

Staff Report

TO: City Council

FROM: Todd Parton, City Manager

DATE October 6, 2020

SUBJECT: Establishment of the City of Beaumont COVID-19 Household

Assistance Grant Program

Background and Analysis:

On August 18, 2020, the City Council approved a budget amendment for FY2021 that allocated funds for the City of Beaumont COVID-19 Relief Program. This program includes an allocation of \$100,000 for a household assistance grant program to provide relief to those households that are experiencing financial hardships due directly to the COVID-19 pandemic. City staff has provided a Household Assistance Grant Program (HAGP) for City Council consideration.

The HAGP provides financial assistance to households that can demonstrate a loss of income since March 1, 2020. This loss of income could result from reduced pay, furloughs, or layoffs. Furthermore, reduced household income must not exceed 80% of the Riverside County Median Income (approximately \$58,000 per year or \$4,800 per month).

Applicants must be able to demonstrate that Beaumont has been their primary place of residence since January 1, 2020, and must provide evidence of their loss of revenue. Qualified households would be eligible for a one-time grant of \$500 for households with one member or \$1,500 for households with two or more members. There is no restriction on the use of funds.

The ad hoc committee would review applications to determine those that qualify. City staff anticipates that the first call for grant applications would run from November 1 through November 15 with determination of grant awards being made by October 1, 2020.

City staff also anticipates developing a program that can be implemented and monitored with existing City resources. Ideally, there would be no need to purchase special software, hire outside consultants or service providers, or outsource any of the work.

Fiscal Impact:

City estimates that preparation of this report cost approximately \$2,500.

Recommended Action:

City Council establish the Household Assistance Grant Program as presented.

Attachments:

- A. City of Beaumont Household Assistance Grant Program Summary
- B. City of Beaumont Household Assistance Grant Program Application