



MEMORANDUM

Council Agenda
Item No. IX. Y
12/6/2022

The City of OKLAHOMA CITY

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Craig Freeman, City Manager

Resolution allocating up to \$243,000 in City General Funds and approving Agreements for Professional Services with City Rescue Mission, Salvation Army, City Care, and the Homeless Alliance to support overnight winter overflow services for the 2022-23 winter season, retroactive to November 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023.

Background:

Annually Oklahoma City's shelters provide extra beds with fewer entry requirements to get as many people as possible out of the cold. Over the course of the Covid-19 Pandemic, service organizations have seen an increased need for winter shelter capacity, along with a need for greater security, and more staff and resources at high-capacity facilities to ensure a safe environment for service recipients and staff. Winter is a particularly dangerous time of year to be living outdoors, and prior to the development of coordinated Winter Shelter Plans, the City regularly saw deaths of homeless residents during the winter months due to hypothermia or fires in vacant properties. Winter-related deaths and injuries have dropped significantly since the development of coordinated winter programming, and these funds will allow high-capacity shelter facilities to provide those services again this year. The City has waived competitive bidding for these services, as the organizations currently providing shelter services are the only ones large enough to safely accommodate the number of people in need.

Funds will be provided in a total amount of up to \$243,000. The funding will allow the facilities to collectively expand the overall capacity by 120 beds on nights that are 32 degrees Fahrenheit and below. During more severe weather events- generally less than 20 degrees- 250 to 300 total beds will be made available by additionally opening the Homeless Alliance shelter for overnight stays.

Funds will be disbursed on a reimbursement basis for winter shelter expenses to include increased staffing and security and some supplies. The Agreements include not to exceed values for City Rescue Mission, \$60,000; Salvation Army, \$20,000; City Care, \$91,000; and the Homeless Alliance, \$72,000.

Cost: \$243,000 from City General Funds

Source of Funds:

General Fund-General Operations-Homeless Services-Budget Other Services (001-0001-2400206-52000001

Review: Planning

Recommendation: Resolution be adopted.