



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading for the City Council Meeting of March 25, 2025
Second Reading for the City Council Meeting of April 8, 2025

DATE: March 18, 2025
TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager
FROM: Dr. Dante Gonzalez, Interim Director of Public Health
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Acceptance of the Women, Infant and Children's Nutrition Program (WIC) grant for the Corpus Christi – Nueces County Public Health District in the amount of \$190,000.00 to provide additional funding for the WIC program for the period of October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025, and the appropriation of the funds for the contract period.

CAPTION:

Ordinance appropriating \$190,000 in the Health Grant Fund for an increase in the Women, Infants, and Children's Nutrition Program (WIC) grant from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (THHSC) to enhance the facility and improve the customer experience for WIC participants.

SUMMARY:

On February 6, 2025, the THHSC awarded an additional \$190,000 to the Corpus Christi-Nueces County Public Health District (CCNCPHD) for its WIC program. The THHSC, the funding agency for this grant, has allocated a total budget of \$1,233,166 for FY 2025. This additional funding will increase the grant award for the WIC program to \$1,423,166 for FY 2025.

The additional funding is intended to enhance the City's WIC facility at 1702 Horne Rd. The planned improvements, funded by the grant, aim to renovate the WIC building and improve the overall customer experience for participants. After the City Council approves the acceptance of the additional WIC grant funds, the project will be put out for bid. Once the bids are selected, the project must receive approval from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Any capital expenditures, such as buildings, land, and improvements that use WIC funds and exceed \$5,000, require this approval. Once USDA approves the project, construction is expected to begin in August and be completed by the end of September 2025.

The City Manager or designee may reject or terminate this grant and is authorized to execute contract amendments pertaining to these grant funds in the following instances: a) for the carry-over of funds, when ascertained and approved by the funding agency through a revised notice of award; b) a no-cost extension; c) when an amendment will provide supplemental grant funds in an amount not to exceed 20% of the original grant amount; d) for reimbursement increases of administration funds for each participant served; e) to comply with applicable State or federal laws and regulations; and f) for matters which do not change the essential purpose of the grant.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The THHSC is the funding agency for the WIC grant. In FY 2025, the initial award amounted to \$1,233,166.00. When additional funding became available, the CCNCPHD requested extra funds to improve the WIC facility. As a result, an additional \$190,000.00 was awarded to the CCNCPHD’s WIC program. With these additional funds, the total funding for the WIC program in FY 2025 will be \$1,423,166.00.

The WIC building is located on the CCNCPHD campus at 1702 Horne Rd. It has not undergone major renovations in more than 10 years and requires significant upgrades. The CCNCPHD plans to utilize additional funding from the WIC grant to implement upgrades that align with the approved Texas WIC design catalog, aiming to improve the overall customer experience.

If accepted, the City’s WIC building will undergo the following enhancements:

- Installation of new ceiling tiles and vents
- Installation of a new integrated and high-quality PA system
- Public restroom and waiting room improvements
- Exterior and interior painting
- Replacement of exterior lighting
- Replacement of existing windows with hurricane-impact windows
- Improved exterior WIC signage

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According to the grant contract, all projects related to the WIC renovation must be completed by the end of fiscal year 2025. WIC operations will continue without interruption during the upgrades, with all WIC services temporarily relocated to the main building of the Public Health District.

The WIC renovation project timeline is as follows:

Milestone Descriptions:	Start Date:	End Date:
Contract Award Received and Approval by City Council	February 2025	April 2025
WIC Renovation Project Request For Bid	April 2025	May 2025
Federal Approval of Winning Bid by USDA	May 2025	July 2025
Contractor Chosen and Contract Finalized	July 2025	August 2025
WIC Renovation Project Construction	August 2025	September 2025

The CCNCPHD has historically been awarded the WIC grant for over 20 years. WIC is a nutrition initiative designed for pregnant and breastfeeding women and families with children under five years old. Texas WIC aims to improve the eating habits of infants, children, pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women. The WIC grant funds 14 full-time equivalents and serves approximately 5000 participants monthly. In FY 2024, the WIC program was awarded the Star Customer Service Award from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, which is only given to the top 15% of WIC programs in Texas.

ALTERNATIVES:

Reject the additional funding awarded and keep the building in its current condition.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact. No City cash match is required if the funding is awarded.

FUNDING DETAIL:

Fund: 1066 Health Grants
Organization/Activity: 89 Grants & Capital Project Funds / 831325F WIC FY24-25
Department Number: 15 Health
Project # (CIP Only): N/A
Account: 530345 Incentive Awards / 530000 Professional Services

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the Ordinance as this will significantly improve the customer experience and improve the City's WIC building.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Contract No. HHS000802100001
Ordinance
Certification of Funds