



County of Albany

Harold L. Joyce
Albany County Office
Building
112 State Street - Albany,
NY 12207

Legislation Text

File #: TMP-2327, **Version:** 1

REQUEST FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Description (e.g., Contract Authorization for Information Services):

Contract Authorization for Social Services (UTA)

Date: 2/22/2021
Submitted By: Joseph J DeAngelis
Department: Social Services
Title: Contract Administrator
Phone: 518-447-7583
Department Rep.
Attending Meeting: Michele G. McClave

Purpose of Request:

- ☐ Adopting of Local Law
- ☐ Amendment of Prior Legislation
- ☐ Approval/Adoption of Plan/Procedure
- ☐ Bond Approval
- ☐ Budget Amendment
- ☒ Contract Authorization
- ☐ Countywide Services
- ☐ Environmental Impact/SEQR
- ☐ Home Rule Request
- ☐ Property Conveyance
- ☐ Other: (state if not listed) Click or tap here to enter text.

CONCERNING BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Increase/decrease category (choose all that apply):

- ☐ Contractual
- ☐ Equipment
- ☐ Fringe
- ☐ Personnel
- ☐ Personnel Non-Individual

☐ Revenue

Increase Account/Line No.: Click or tap here to enter text.

Source of Funds: Click or tap here to enter text.

Title Change: Click or tap here to enter text.

CONCERNING CONTRACT AUTHORIZATIONS

Type of Contract:

☐ Change Order/Contract Amendment

☐ Purchase (Equipment/Supplies)

☐ Lease (Equipment/Supplies)

☐ Requirements

☒ Professional Services

☐ Education/Training

☐ Grant

Choose an item.

Submission Date Deadline Click or tap to enter a date.

☐ Settlement of a Claim

☐ Release of Liability

☐ Other: (state if not listed) Click or tap here to enter text.

Contract Terms/Conditions:

Party (Name/address):

United Tenants of Albany

33 Clinton Avenue, Albany, New York 12207

Additional Parties (Names/addresses):

Click or tap here to enter text.

Amount/Raise Schedule/Fee: \$125,000

Scope of Services: The Provider will assist the Albany County Department of Social Services with a federal assistance program to prevent eviction of households experiencing financial hardship due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Bond Res. No.: Click or tap here to enter text.

Date of Adoption: Click or tap here to enter text.

CONCERNING ALL REQUESTS

Mandated Program/Service: Yes ☐ No ☒

If Mandated Cite Authority: Click or tap here to enter text.

Is there a Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐

Anticipated in Current Budget: Yes ☒ No ☐

County Budget Accounts:

Revenue Account and Line: AA6010 04612

Revenue Amount: \$125,000

Appropriation Account and Line: AA6010 44086

Appropriation Amount: \$125,000

Source of Funding - (Percentages)

Federal: 100%

State:

County:

Local:

Term

Term: (Start and end date) 3/15/2021 - 3/31/2022

Length of Contract: 12.5 Months

Impact on Pending Litigation

Yes ☐ No ☒

If yes, explain: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Previous requests for Identical or Similar Action:

Resolution/Law Number: N/A

Date of Adoption: N/A

Justification: (state briefly why legislative action is requested)

Via resolution 22 adopted 2/8/2021 approval was granted to accept the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) allocation, funded by the US Treasury. Approval is requested to contract with United Tenants of Albany to assist the Albany County Department of Social Services (DSS) to provide assistance to eligible Albany County households that are unable to pay rent and/or utilities due to COVID-19. Eligible services will be used for direct financial assistance, including rent, rental arrears, utilities and other expenses related to housing. An eligible household is defined as a renter household in which at least one or more individuals meets the following criteria: • Qualifies for unemployment or has experienced a reduction in household income, incurred significant costs, or experienced a financial hardship due to COVID-19; • Demonstrates a risk of experiencing homelessness or housing instability; and • Has a household income at or below 80 percent of area median income. NOTE priority will be given to households at 50% of area Median income or less. • Eligible households may receive up to 12 months of rental arrears assistance, plus an additional three months if there is a determination of need to ensure housing stability should sufficient funds remain available. • The payment of existing housing related arrears that could result in eviction of an eligible household will be prioritized. Working with DSS and Legal Aid Society of North Eastern NY, United Tenants of Albany will conduct outreach, primarily in the City of Albany, to educate potentially eligible tenants about Emergency Rental Assistance Program eligibility and benefits, how to apply and where to access case management and legal assistance. Outreach will include utilization of its well-known hot line in the community, which is accessed by thousands of households each year. United Tenants maintains a presence at many at-risk locations including physical space on Orange Street, near many bus lines, in Albany City Court, at large affordable housing sites, food shelters and homeless shelters. The Provider will conduct outreach in these settings to ensure knowledge of and access to the Emergency Rental Assistance Program. United Tenants of Albany has been a primary provider of eviction prevention and emergency rental assistance services in the City of Albany for more than 20 years and is uniquely suited to assist DSS in preventing eviction of households experiencing financial hardship due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Albany County Department of Social Services will also contract with Legal Aid Society of Northeastern NY who will assist eligible households in rural Albany County communities. Note a contract approval request will be submitted to the Contract Administration Board for this provider.