

Overview of the Emergency Response Grant Fund

Executive Summary:

The Department of Finance is submitting a bill request to the City Council that would create the Emergency Response Grant Fund in the General Government SRF Series.

Background:

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is now a global pandemic impacting people and economies worldwide. A State of Emergency has been declared at the national, state, and local level and all Colorado residents are ordered to remain at home until April 11. The Budget and Management Office recently submitted the establishment of the Coronavirus Emergency Response Special Revenue Fund to track, monitor, and report General Fund spending on the City and County of Denver's coronavirus response, along with the transfer of \$10 million from General Fund Contingency. The City is pursuing parallel efforts to receive grant funding to offset the cost of expending its own resources. This fund will allow for the receipt and expenditure of federal and federal pass-through dollars to confront the emergency.

The proposed Emergency Response Grant Fund:

The Department of Finance wishes to create the Coronavirus Emergency Response Special Revenue Fund in the General Government Series to receive and expend federal and federal pass-through dollars to address the pandemic. The fund will be managed by the Department of Finance. The anticipated first use of this fund is to receive monies provided by the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and/or the Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to reimburse or advance costs associated with the response to the emergency. Applicable costs may include, but are not limited to (and will follow any costs specified by the grantor):

- Personnel services such as overtime
- Supplies and equipment directly related to emergency response or mass care
- Costs incurred because of a temporary relocation of essential services
- Child Care (if provided by the City)
- Security (fencing, barricades, hired security)

All expenditures are subject to approval by the grantor and to standard City Council approval procedures authorized in the Denver City Charter, meaning contracts and purchase orders valued at \$500,000 or more would require Council approval through a resolution.

Revenues to the fund will include federal grants awarded directly to the City or sent via a pass-through entity, such as the State.