



Legislation Text

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## Contract Request Template (Contracts; IGAs; Leases)

Date Submitted: 11-7-2022

Requesting Agency: Department of Public Health and Environment  
Division:

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### Item Title & Description:

*(Do not delete the following instructions)*

*These appear on the Council meeting agenda. Initially, the requesting agency will enter a 2-3 sentence description. Upon bill filling, the City Attorney's Office should enter the title above the description (the title should be in **bold** font).*

*Both the title and description must be entered between the red "title" and "body" below. Do **not** at any time delete the red "title" or "body" markers from this template.*

**A resolution approving a proposed Fifth Amendatory Agreement between the City and County of Denver and The Empowerment Program, Inc. to continue diverting people with behavioral health issues into intensive case management as part of the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program.**

Amends a contract with The Empowerment Program, Inc. by adding \$403,160 for a new total of \$1,458,138 and one year for a new end date of 6-30-2023 to continue diverting people with behavioral health issues into intensive case management in lieu of arrest for low level crimes as part of the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program, citywide (ENVHL-202158938/ ENVHL-202264538-05). The last regularly scheduled Council meeting within the 30-day review period is on 12-12-22. The Committee approved filing this item at its meeting on 11-9-22.

**Affected Council District(s) or citywide?**

**Contract Control Number:** ENVHL-202158938/ ENVHL-202264538-05

**Vendor/Contractor Name (including any "DBA"): The Empowerment Program, Inc.**

**Type and Scope of services to be performed:**

This agreement continues the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program for its fifth year in Denver. The program diverts people with behavioral health issues into intensive case management in lieu of arrest for low level crimes. The Empowerment program is subcontracted to provide the case management services. The program diverts people with behavioral health issues into intensive case management in lieu of arrest for low level crimes. Referrals come through the Denver Police Department at an officer's discretion. The officer conducts a warm hand off with a case manager who provides intensive services from a harm reduction lens. LEAD serves participants who struggle with behavioral health issues and frequently interact with law enforcement. The goal of the program is to reduce harm for those with behavioral health issues and to reduce jail bed days. LEAD operates in collaboration with DPD's District 1, 2, 6, and the Vice Unit. Officers have discretion to divert people with behavioral health issues into services from the following charges: possession of illicit substances, trespassing, shoplifting, and prostitution. Referrals are engaged in intensive case management services including housing assistance, harm reduction practices, substance use treatment, medical treatment, transportation, and the provision of basic necessities.

The program diverts people with behavioral health issues into intensive case management in lieu of arrest for low level crimes. Diversions and referrals come through the Denver Police Department at an officer's discretion, as well as through social agency referrals from other justice partners. The officer conducts a warm hand off with a case manager who provides intensive services from a harm reduction lens. The goal of the program is to improve public safety and reduce harm/risks associated with people with behavioral health needs. Intake and case management for LEAD referrals will be provided by the Empowerment Program.

DDPHE acknowledges that this request extends an agreement that lapsed several months ago. DDPHE and the Department of Safety (DOS) recently completed conversations about the transition of this program to the DOS- a decision that delayed the submission of this request. Finally, the DPDHE Executive Director has approved a final contract extension beyond the five years allowed in Executive Order No. 8 on the basis that the additional period is only 3 months and the contract will be rebid at that time.

**Location (if applicable): citywide**

**WBE/MBE/DBE goals that were applied, if applicable (construction, design, Airport concession contracts): N/A**

**Are WBE/MBE/DBE goals met (if applicable)? N/A**

**Is the contract new/a renewal/extension or amendment?**

Amendment

**Was this contractor selected by competitive process or sole source?**

Competitive

**For New contracts**

**Term of initial contract:**

**Options for Renewal:**

**How many renewals (i.e. up to 2 renewals)?**

**Term of any renewals (i.e. 1 year each):**

**Cost of initial contract term:**

**Cost of any renewals:**

**Total contract value council is approving if all renewals exercised:**

**For Amendments/Renewals Extensions:**

**Is this a change to cost/pricing; length of term; terms unrelated to time or price (List all that apply)?**

**Cost and length**

***If length changing***

**What was the length of the term of the original contract?**

4/1/18-6/30/22

**What is the length of the extension/renewal?**

**One year**

**What is the revised total term of the contract?**

4/1/18-6/30/23

***If cost changing***

**What was the original value of the entire contract prior to this proposed change?**

**\$1,054,978**

**What is the value of the proposed change?**

**\$403,160**

**What is the new/revised total value including change?**

**\$1,458,138**

***If terms changing***

**Describe the change and the reason for it (i.e. compliance with state law, different way of doing business etc.)**