

## **Questions and Answers Addendum #2 for Temporary Rental and Utility Assistance (TRUA) Request for Proposal (RFP) #HOST-67-2023**

Question 1) Are we able to say we will serve low and extremely low income folks? Or do we need to keep it at 80% AMI or below?

Answer 1) The program will serve at or below 80% AMI. Applicants may want to focus on a population under that 80% and should include that information and how doing so is in the best interest of the City and meets the goals of the RFP.

Question 2) How many contracts do you anticipate awarding?

Answer 2) In the past the funding for this program has been awarded to multiple agencies. All proposals will be scored, and awards determined based on the evaluation criteria. The City may choose to award one proposal, award multiple proposals, or to reject all proposals.

Question 3) For the references, are these references of individuals for the individual applying, or an individual/organization referencing the entire organization?

Answer 3) References should support and attest to similar work. Choosing who should be a reference and how to best illustrate that ability to perform the work requested is up to the discretion of the organization applying.

Question 4) One of the eligible activities listed in the RFP is receiving, reviewing and making eligibility determinations for TRUA applications submitted to a central database.

My organization is a homelessness service/housing stabilization provider. Can we propose to serve our own clients, outside of residents who submit their TRUA applications to the central database? If agencies such as mine are allowed to serve their own clients, would we still be required to submit client applications to this central database?

Answer 4) An organization may submit a proposal offering services to a sub-population. All clients would have to submit the same type of application and use the required, centralized database. Everyone must adhere to the same prioritization process even if there is a sub-population.

Question 5) Will organizations just wait for follow up from the City on whether the application for clients are approved and we [the organization] can provide rental assistance and refer them to the resource programs?

Answer 5) The organization(s) awarded will be responsible for reviewing applications and making eligibility determinations based on criteria outlined in the contract and other program policies and procedures provided by HOST. HOST will not be a part of processing applications.

Questions 6) If our organization serves a specific population such as individuals living with HIV, would we be eligible for the grant or do we need to accept any client?

Answer 6) Yes. An organization that serves sub populations is eligible to apply and eligible for award. There is language in the RFP that also sets the goals, needs, and specific neighborhoods HOST wishes to serve with the funds. All information on how serving a sub-population helps further or is in accordance with those goals and needs should be included in the proposal.

Question 7) The RFP instructs applicants to submit 2 budgets. That is average award anticipated with the current program budget of \$4.4 million and how many awards does HOST expect to make?

How much of the current budget (\$4.4 million) is expected to serve the priority neighborhoods of Westwood, East Colfax, Sun Valley, Globeville, and Elyria-Swansea?

Answer 7) Regardless of amount, there is no set determination on how many awards HOST plans to make. Determination of how many organizations are awarded is based on the proposals and how well the proposal scores based on evaluation criteria in the best interest of the City. HOST anticipates about \$1.3 million to serve the priority neighborhoods based on requirements of a special revenue fund provided to the program.

Question 8) In addition to a centralized application process, would there also be one centralized community queue/waitlist based on need prioritization, with client referrals to funded partners coming from/in the order of that queue?

Answer 8) Yes. All applications coming into that database would have to adhere to the same priority.

Question 9) We've not worked with TRUA before, how many months of assistance can households get?

Answer 9) As the program stands right now, households may receive up to 6 months of assistance in a 12-month calendar year. The program may provide assistance for rent arrears and current month's rent. The program also offers utility assistance and households may receive one payment per utility (Xcel Energy and/or Denver Water) per calendar year. Program guidelines are subject to change depending on available funding and other factors.