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## 191493

Emergency Ordinance

### **\*Accept and appropriate American Rescue Plan funds from Multnomah County in the amount of \$371,447 to assist City Expanded Partner Network organizations to improve and expand their outreach and overcome barriers to access for communities in need of rent assistance**

Passed

The City of Portland ordains:

Section 1. The Council finds:

1. As a result of the State eviction moratorium and Safe Harbor law expiring on June 30, 2022, and the existing houseless crisis in our region, the City has continued to utilize the full amount of American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") funding available for use by the Emergency Rental Assistance Program ("ERAP") and other federal funds for eviction prevention and rent assistance programs through the Portland Housing Bureau.
2. As a result of one in five Portlanders being at risk of eviction and an estimated \$25 million in rental arrears being accrued each month, the Portland Housing Bureau continues to work with our jurisdictional and community partners to develop a rent relief program to those experiencing the greatest adverse impacts of COVID-19, including but not limited to Black, Indigenous and People of Color communities, people living with a disability, and other vulnerable populations with very low incomes.
3. Multnomah County has made an additional \$371,447 in ARPA funding available to the City for eviction prevention and emergency rent assistance earmarked for the City's Expanded Partner Network ("EPN"). Thus, the City through Portland Housing Bureau, will execute and administer the EPN rent assistance contracts .
4. Due to the urgent and immediate need to begin disbursing relief funds, the Council finds it necessary to delegate contract and agreement execution authority to the Portland Housing Bureau Director to manage the Emergency Rental Assistance Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Council directs:

- A. The Commissioner in Charge is hereby authorized to accept on behalf of the City of Portland and appropriate a grant in the amount of \$371,447

Introduced by

[Commissioner Carmen Rubio](#)

Bureau

[Housing Bureau](#)

Contact

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Requested Agenda Type

Regular

Date and Time Information

**Requested Council Date**

October 18, 2023

**Time Requested**

15 minutes

in Federal American Rescue Plan funds from the Multnomah County and to execute a grant agreement (the "IGA") similar to Exhibit A attached hereto.

B. The Director of the Portland Housing Bureau is authorized to accept, on behalf of the City of Portland, any subsequent modifications by Multnomah County for American Rescue Plan funding for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, provided such modifications do not increase the City of Portland's financial obligation or risk. In doing so, the Portland Housing Bureau Director is authorized to execute amendments to the IGA. Any modifications or amendments to the IGA that increase the City of Portland's financial obligation or risk must be authorized by the Portland City Council.

C. The Portland Housing Bureau Director is hereby authorized to execute, amend, and terminate contracts and agreements funded by the County ARPA grant. The contract terms, and the Director's authority to execute and amend such contracts, expire on December 31, 2024.

D. The FY 2023/2024 budget is hereby amended as follows:

#### GRANTS FUND


Fund 217

Business Area – HC00

Bureau Program Expenses – \$371,447

Section 2. The Council declares that an emergency exists because a delay would unnecessarily delay the City's, the County's and Home Forward's ability to perform the activities authorized by the grant and required by statute; therefore, this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage by the Council.

## Documents and Exhibits

 [Exhibit A \(https://www.portland.gov/sites/default/files/council-documents/2023/exhibit-a-30008581-multnomah-county-iga.docx\)](https://www.portland.gov/sites/default/files/council-documents/2023/exhibit-a-30008581-multnomah-county-iga.docx) 187.38 KB

An ordinance when passed by the Council shall be signed by the Auditor. It shall be carefully filed and preserved in the custody of the Auditor (City Charter Chapter 2 Article 1 Section 2-122)

Passed by Council  
October 18, 2023

Auditor of the City of Portland  
Simone Rede

## Impact Statement

### Purpose of Proposed Legislation and Background Information

- Many Portlanders are still facing an uncertain future as a result of the coronavirus. As a result, the City has determined it is necessary to use federal funds to provide rent assistance that supports households facing extreme economic and housing hardships.
- The purpose of this legislation is to accept the funds from Multnomah County’s American Rescue Plan federal funding to provide to the Portland Housing Bureau through December 31, 2024 to execute and amend contracts and agreements funded under the program.

### Financial and Budgetary Impacts

- The legislation –
  - Accepts \$371,447 in Multnomah County American Rescue Plan funding for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program.
  - Appropriates this funding into the PHB FY23-24 budget.
- The legislation does not –
  - Authorize additional staffing levels

### Community Impacts and Community Involvement

In the summer of 2020, the Housing Bureau convened four stakeholder and community workgroups to address the housing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic recession. One work group focused exclusively on the rental housing market, and this group developed a series of recommendations for the Housing Bureau and the city to consider implementing to address the rental housing market impacts of the pandemic. In response to this, in Portland and Multnomah County, the city, county, Home Forward, and Joint Office of Homeless Services developed and implemented a joint community centered COVID rent assistance program. This program has continued through 2021, 2022 and 2023 as housing prices continued to create barriers and raise the risk of houselessness during that period, while the COVID crisis continued to impact vulnerable communities’ ability to provide for their families.

### 100% Renewable Goal

No Impact to renewable energy use goals

### Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount
217001	HCPG000006	521000	CDTLRA	0	HC000180	HC01800001	371447
217001	HCPG000006	441100	CDTLRA	0	HC000180	HC01800001	(371447)

## Budget Office Financial Impact Analysis

The legislation accepts \$371,447 in American Rescue Plan funding from Multnomah County for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program and appropriates the funds into the Portland Housing Bureau's FY 2023-24 budget. Funding is provided through December 31, 2024, to execute and amend contracts and agreements funded under the program.

## Agenda Items

887 Regular Agenda in [October 18, 2023 Council Agenda](https://www.portland.gov/council/agenda/2023/10/18)  
(<https://www.portland.gov/council/agenda/2023/10/18>)

Passed

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Commissioner Rene Gonzalez Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea