

Legislation Text

File #: 4083, Version: 1

## Subject:

Permission to Advertise a Competitive Solicitation for American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA2) Funds

## Fiscal Impact:

Approximately \$9,856,067 in grant funds are available through this solicitation. It is anticipated that there will be multiple awards to local agencies to provide services throughout the County. There will be no impact to the General Fund.

# **Dept/Office:**

Housing and Human Services / Central Services

## **Requested Action:**

It is requested that the Board of County Commissioners:

- (1) Approve the advertisement and award(s) of a competitive solicitation for qualified contractor(s) to provide rental assistance to eligible households per US Department of Treasury and County guidelines;
- (2) Authorize the County Manager or designee to execute all resulting contracts, amendments, and modifications (including contract extension) upon review and approval of the County Attorney's Office, Risk Management, and Purchasing Services;
- (3) Authorize the County Manager to approve any necessary budget change requests.

## **Summary Explanation and Background:**

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) was signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021. Included in the \$1.9 trillion bill was an additional \$21.6 billion in Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA2) funds. Brevard County received a total allocation of \$14,381,859. 40% (\$5,752,744) of the funds have been released and the remainder becomes available upon obligation of 75% of the total funds. This solicitation would achieve the obligation requirement and allow for the release of all remaining funds.

Contractors will be required to follow US Department of Treasury (for example, income eligibility and reporting) and County (for example, not paying the tenant directly) guidelines when assisting eligible households with rent and utility assistance. In addition, contractors will be required to utilize a Housing and Human Services Department (HHS) created application and review process. HHS will conduct ongoing monitoring to ensure compliance and provide authorization for release of funds to contractors.

## **Clerk to the Board Instructions:**

None