



## CITY OF HOUSTON - CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: 8/30/2016

ALL

Item Creation Date: 8/8/2016

HCD16-73 Rebuilding Together Houston

Agenda Item#:

### **Background:**

On April 13, 2016, City Council approved Ordinance No. 2016-298, authorizing a \$2 million contract between the City of Houston and Rebuilding Together Houston (RTH) for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Minor Critical Emergency Home Repair Program. The program provides vital roofing, plumbing, electrical and heating repairs or system replacement to alleviate life, health or safety hazards to elderly and/or disabled households with incomes below 120% of the Area Median Income (AMI). Since the commencement of that program in mid-May, approximately 15 households are in process of being assisted at an aggregate amount of more than \$75,000.

HCDD recommends amending the contract to focus on the replacement or repair of roofs that have been storm-damaged and are covered with tarps. To meet the demand of replacing or repairing the number of damaged roofs in the city, the program's eligibility criteria will also need to be amended.

Currently, the program is open only to owner-occupied homes containing at least one person who is elderly (age 62 or older) or disabled. HCDD proposes broadening eligibility by removing the owner occupancy requirement and allowing non-rental homes occupied by family of the owner. Additionally, the new eligibility criteria will remove the elderly/disabled requirement and open the program to anyone who is income eligible. This amendment will allow HCDD:

- to serve a much broader segment of City residents living in homes with blue tarps;
- greater flexibility in requiring a more robust commencement and completion time frame toward roof repair/replacements; and
- the opportunity to update the 2015 income limits with the previously unavailable 2016 income limits.

This item was reviewed by the Housing and Community Affairs Committee on Aug. 23, 2016.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom McCasland', written over a horizontal line.

Tom McCasland, Interim Director

### **Prior Council Action:**

April 13, 2016

(O) 2016-298

### **Contact Information:**

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