



Legislation Text

File #: 22-2217, **Version:** 1

Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) recommending the Board:

- 1) Make findings that the provision of weatherization services provided by EdwardsAppliance, doing business as Edwards A-1 Appliance, are in the public's best interest and that there are specialty skills, qualifications, and equipment not expressly identified in County classifications involved in the performance of the work in accordance with El Dorado County Ordinance Code, Chapter 3.13.030 (B), El Dorado County Charter, Section 210(b)(6), and/or Government Code Section 31000;
- 2) Approve and authorize the Chair to sign Agreement for Services 6943 with EdwardsAppliance, doing business as Edwards A-1 Appliance, with a not-to-exceed amount of \$358,500, and for the term of three (3) years from January 25, 2023, through January 24, 2026; and
- 3) Authorize the HHS Director, or Assistant Director of Human Services, to execute further documents relating to Agreement 6943, contingent upon approval by County Counsel and Risk Management, including amendments which do not increase the maximum dollar amount or term of the Agreement.

FUNDING: 100% Federal Low-Income Energy Assistance Program.

DISCUSSION / BACKGROUND:

The County of El Dorado Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) administers a Weatherization Program in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Weatherization in El Dorado County consists of qualified, low-income households applying for assistance through the County HHS, which contracts with local contractors to perform weatherization related repairs/improvements. The program is not federally mandated but exists as a result of an annually allocated LIHEAP program funding agreement between the County and the California Department of Community Services and Development, which in 2022 provided \$1,912,196 of funding in support of the program.

Home energy weatherization related projects are for the benefit of low-income community members and are made available to households with the highest energy costs or needs in relation to income. The program helps low-income households improve energy efficiency, reduce energy costs, and remain safe and comfortable in their homes. Weatherization projects may involve heating and air conditioning appliance repair and replacement, water-heater repair or replacement, fireplace repair or replacement, window installation, and/or other repairs on a project-by-project basis.

The Weatherization Program maintains a pool of qualified contracted vendors to provide these specialized weatherization services. As a weatherization project becomes available, HHS's Weatherization Program requests quotes from these contractors, who may provide bids at no charge, and each job is then awarded to the lowest responsible bidder within the maximum charge allowed per the LIHEAP contract. Maintaining an adequate pool of contractors is critical to the Weatherization Program to ensure provision of services to eligible households in a timely and cost-effective manner, as well as to ensure all areas of the County are covered for services.

On January 10, 2022, the County's Chief Administrative Office (CAO) Procurement and Contracts

Division released Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 22-918-027 for Weatherization contractors. Consistent with the Board's C-17 policy and Federal Procurement Policy, the RFQ was released in order to ensure compliance with funding requirements identified in statute. There were three (3) proposals received in response to the RFQ, which were all awarded and have resulted in executed agreements with the vendors. The Weatherization Program still has a need for additional appliance repair and replacement services from the pool of available contractors, to help ensure that necessary repairs and replacements are made improving the overall function and safety of the home. It is important to have a sufficient number of contractors available to provide these services, as they play a crucial role in the success of the Weatherization Program.

EdwardsAppliance was not a respondent to the RFQ, but has been providing these Weatherization Program services through Agreement for Services 576 which was executed on January 25, 2018, and expires January 24, 2023. Because competitive bidding requirements have been met in accordance with the County of El Dorado Board of Supervisors Policy C-17, HHSa negotiated a new agreement with EdwardsAppliance, doing business as Edwards A-1 Appliance to ensure the continuation of necessary weatherization services without any service interruption as well as to maintain an adequate pool of service contractors.

The proposed Agreement for Services 6943 is a renewal of Agreement for Services 576 for the term of January 25, 2023, through January 24, 2026.

ALTERNATIVES:

Should the Board decline to approve this item, the County would no longer be able to provide appliance repair and replacement services with EdwardsAppliance, doing business as Edwards A-1 Appliance, after the current agreement expires on January 24, 2023. This would also reduce the pool of available contractors to the Weatherization Program and the ability to complete home weatherization services for residents, as well as result in unspent funding that would need to be returned to the State. County staff lack the required licenses to perform all of the specialized repairs/improvements required by the program.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION:

8/16/16, 16-0772, HHSa Weatherization Boilerplate and Resolution

OTHER DEPARTMENT / AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Approved by County Counsel, Human Resources, CAO Procurement and Contracts and Risk Management. The Auditor-Controller was notified.

CAO RECOMMENDATION:

Approve as recommended.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This Agreement for Services is funded with Federal LIHEAP. Sufficient appropriations were included in the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Recommended Budget and will be included in future budgets for the term of the Agreement.

CLERK OF THE BOARD FOLLOW UP ACTIONS

Clerk of the Board to obtain signature of Chair on one (1) original Agreement for Services 6943.

STRATEGIC PLAN COMPONENT:

Healthy Communities

CONTACT

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