



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** June 12, 2017
SUBJECT: Consider the renewal of the Joint Administration Agreement for the Community Development Block Grant with Tarrant County for Fiscal Year 2018-2020.
PRESENTER: Kristin James, Assistant to the City Manager

SUMMARY:

The joint administrative agreement between the City of North Richland Hills and Tarrant County includes the administration of the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) which the City of North Richland Hills receives direct funding for. The agreement allows the City of North Richland Hills to continue to be a part of the Urban County for the purpose of program planning and implementation for the entire period of the Urban County qualification.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

In order to continue to receive CDBG entitlement funding through 2020, Tarrant County must once again qualify as an Urban County. Entitlement counties must re-qualify every three years for funding. Tarrant County is eligible to receive entitlement grant funds by having a combined population of 200,000 or more from unincorporated areas and participating municipalities. Under the Urban County designation Tarrant County is authorized to undertake essential community development and housing assistance activities without the consent of local governments; therefore, the County must notify local governments that they have the option to be included or excluded from the Urban County designation.

North Richland Hills accepted its status to be included in the Urban County and entered into a joint agreement with the urban county in 2014. The City is required to sign a new agreement every three years in order to continue this relationship with Tarrant County. This joint administrative agreement would be effective through 2020.

The CDBG Program is one program slated to be cut in the Proposed Fiscal Year 2018 Federal Budget. It is still early in the budget process; therefore, Tarrant County must process these agreements as usual to be considered for funding in 2018. However, the City will not enter into any contracts for which CDBG funds are not available.

RECOMMENDATION:

Renew the Joint Administration Agreement for the Community Development Block Grant with Tarrant County for Fiscal Year 2018-2020.