



COMMISSIONERS COURT
COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER

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DATE: 03/17/2020

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL OF EXEMPTION FROM COMPETITIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS FOR PURCHASES RELATED TO THE COVID-19 DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED:

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve an exemption from competitive bidding requirements for the purchases related to the COVID-19 Declaration of Local Disaster.

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to Government Code §418.108, the Declaration of Local Disaster activates the Tarrant County Emergency Management Plan which allows the County to establish emergency purchasing procedures and coordinate emergency procurements.

Currently, the County does not have a contract in place to address community awareness and preparedness. This request is immediately needed to aid in preparing to protect the public health and safety of the residents of the county.

Under the Local Government Code, exemptions to the competitive bidding requirement are allowed for certain types of purchases if the Commissioners Court by order grants the exemption. Accordingly, it is requested that the Commissioners Court, by order, grant a competitive bidding exception for items related to COVID-19 under Local Government Code §262.024(a)(1-2) as follows:

- “(1) an item that must be purchased in a case of public calamity if it is necessary to make the purchase promptly to relieve the necessity of the citizens or to preserve the property of the county;
- “(2) an item necessary to preserve or protect the public health or safety of the residents of the county;”

Therefore, it is the recommendation that the Commissioners Court approve an exemption from competitive bidding requirements for purchases related to COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Fiscal impact is unknown at this time.

SUBMITTED BY:	Purchasing	PREPARED BY:	Melissa Lee, C.P.M, A.P.P
		APPROVED BY:	