Fund Summary

Fund Name	:	**Contractor Responsibility Fund**
Business Area	:	**Office of Business Opportunity**
Fund No./Bus. Area No.	:	**2424 / 5100**

	FY2025 Current Budget	FY2025 Estimate	FY2026 Budget
Beginning Fund Balance	2,124,400	2,124,400	**2,321,349**
Current Revenues	1,246,475	1,272,475	**1,321,195**
Total Available Resources	3,370,875	3,396,875	**3,642,544**
Maintenance and Operations	445,526	445,526	**309,578**
Other Interfund Transfers	630,000	630,000	**630,000**
Total Expenditures	1,075,526	1,075,526	**939,578**
Planned Ending Fund Balance	2,295,349	2,321,349	**2,702,966**
Total Budget	3,370,875	3,396,875	**3,642,544**
Fund Balance Distribution			
Non-Spendable	0	0	**0**
Restricted	0	0	**0**
Committed	2,295,349	2,321,349	**2,702,966**
Assigned	0	0	**0**
Unassigned	0	0	**0**

The above summarizes the FY2025 Budget, the FY2025 Estimate and the FY2026 Budget for the Contractor Responsibility Fund (CRF). Also included are the beginning and ending fund balances, total revenues and total expenditures.

The Contractor Responsibility Fund was established with Ordinance 2007-534 in July 2007. Through the implementation of Executive Order 1-7, the City of Houston created the Pay or Play (POP) Program, which is administered by the Office of Business Opportunity (OBO).

The POP Program is designed to create a level playing field for contractors bidding on City of Houston projects, and defray the costs of the local uninsured workforce. City contractors subject to POP are required to offer employees health benefits or contribute $1 per hour of work for each covered employee towards the CRF. In FY2025, the revenue was used to support health programs such as the Client Access Program (CAP), Emergency Tele-Health and Navigation (ETHAN) Program, and the Crisis Call Diversion (CCD) Program, as well as the costs associated with administering the program.

The Client Access Program is a collaboration with the Houston Health Department (HHD). HHD works in partnership with the community to promote and protect the health and social well-being of Houstonians and the environment in which they live. OBO's POP program exists to enhance fairness in completion for contracts between bidders that choose to offer a health benefit to their workforce and those that do not. The CAP is intended to impact the lives of individuals and families that do not have access to health coverage by providing linkage to health services through Harris Health, Title V, Children's Health Insurance Program, etc. The CAP provides access to Federally Qualified Health Centers and Community Health Centers to participants that meet eligibility requirements.

The ETHAN Program is a collaboration among Harris County Healthcare Alliance, Houston Fire Department (HFD), Harris County RIDES, and Community Health Centers. ETHAN provides non-emergency 9-1-1 callers with the option of a no-cost cab ride to an emergency department or a community health center. ETHAN also provides the option of scheduling an appointment at a community health center at no charge. The program has provided the ability for physicians to communicate with patients to determine if they are non-emergent and provide advice on the outcome. This helps divert from the emergency medical system those patients who do not need emergency care and can benefit more from primary care services. The Fire Department has an agreement to fund this program through an LLC in FY2026 and future years.

The Crisis Call Diversion Program is an innovative program that co-locates Crisis Phone Counselors from The Harris Center for Mental Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities inside the Houston Emergency Communication Center (HEC), to work alongside Houston Police Department and Houston Fire Department Dispatchers with the mission of assisting callers to 911 with mental health-related concerns. The CCD Program co-locates Crisis Phone Counselors within 911 Dispatch to provide a risk assessment for mental health-related calls to 911 and divert non-imminent risk, non-criminal calls for service away from emergency services and towards a more appropriate mental health response.