M E M O R A N D U M
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
PUBLIC HEALTH
County of Placer

TO: Board of Supervisors DATE: September 8, 2020

FROM: Jeffrey S. Brown, M.P.H., M.S.W., Director of Health and Human Services

SUBJECT: Amend Agreement for Laboratory Testing for COVID-19 – Stem Express LLC

ACTION REQUESTED

1. Approve an amendment to an agreement with Stem Express LLC of Folsom, CA for Laboratory Testing for COVID-19 in the amount of $250,000 for a new maximum amount of $650,000 through December 31, 2020.
2. Authorize the Purchasing Manager to sign all required documents.

BACKGROUND

Due to the current COVID-19 worldwide pandemic, Placer County Health and Human Services Department (HHS) has coordinated specimen collection and laboratory testing primarily in response to outbreaks among vulnerable populations in congregate settings. Such settings include skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, residential care facilities for the elderly, and Placer County jails.

All specimens must be transported to a qualified laboratory to detect the virus in the sample. HHS has been utilizing free laboratory services provided by the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) for up to 100 samples per day. HHS has utilized the Sacramento County Public Health Laboratory for COVID-19 testing, however this lab is challenged by the demands of testing within its own county.

Procurement awarded a contract to Stem Express LLC in the amount of $100,000 for a period of June 19, 2020 through July 31, 2020. On July 28, 2020 your Board approved an increase to the contract in the amount of $300,000 and extended it to December 31, 2020. The service provided by Stem Express has been very effective. However, due to an increase in demand for COVID-19 testing at the Placer County jails, skilled nursing facilities, and other congregate settings, there is a need to increase the laboratory service contract by $250,000 to a new total of $650,000. Additionally, HHS staff is currently working with Procurement to secure another laboratory that is able to bill the customer's medical insurance company for these same testing services, at which time utilization of Stem Express LLC will be minimized.

FISCAL IMPACT

The total cost of this amendment is related to COVID -19 and anticipated to be covered by CARES funding.