



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
May 23, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager  
Submitted by: Lisa Warhuus, Director, Health, Housing, and Community Services  
Subject: Contract No. 32300144 Amendment: Resource Development Associates for Specialized Care Unit Evaluation

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to amend Contract No. 32300144 with Resource Development Associates (RDA) to add \$85,000 for a not-to-exceed amount of \$235,000.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

This amendment will add \$85,000 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$235,000. Funding for the RDA contract for the Specialized Care Unit (SCU) evaluation is available in the FY2023 budget in One-Time Grant (Fund 336) and General Fund 011.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Amending the RDA contract for SCU evaluation is a Strategic Plan Priority Project, advancing our goal to champion and demonstrate social and racial equity. The additional funds will allow RDA to expand their scope for the SCU pilot program evaluation to include an analysis of call data from the Communications Center related to behavioral health calls. The evaluation scope is being broadened due to interest from the Council and community. Adding this to the scope is critical to providing an all-encompassing evaluation of all SCU program components.

BACKGROUND

In Fall 2020, Resource Development Associates (RDA) was selected through a competitive bid process to provide an extensive research, community engagement, and recommendations to create the framework for the Specialized Care Unit. This process involved working across multiple Berkeley stakeholder groups, including service utilizers, and in-depth research regarding crisis response systems to best inform a behavioral crisis response model to meet Berkeley's needs.

With guidance from the SCU Steering Committee, RDA did research and produced information and recommendations which informed the design of the SCU. RDA consolidated this work into three reports: Crisis Response Models; Mental Health Crisis

Response Services and Stakeholder Perspectives Report; and Specialized Care Unit Crisis Response Recommendations.

The SCU program evaluation expands upon these completed reports. As the SCU gets closer to implementation, RDA is designing a concurrent evaluation to provide necessary program feedback.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

No environmental sustainability and climate impacts directly associated to this recommendation have been identified.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The additional funding identified will allow for an expanded scope than the original funding alone did. This additional analysis of Communications Center data will provide a more comprehensive program evaluation for the SCU

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The City could choose to go through another competitive bidding process to identify a separate vendor to perform this data analysis. However, RDA's existing level of knowledge and alignment with their current scope of work makes it impossible for another firm to match, so this approach is not recommended.

CONTACT PERSON

Lisa Warhuus, Director, Health, Housing, and Community Services, 510-981-5404

ATTACHMENT

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT NO. 32300144 AMENDMENT: RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
ASSOCIATES FOR SCU PROGRAM EVALUATION

WHEREAS, Contract #32300144 was awarded to Resource Development Associates (RDA) to design and implement an evaluation for program effectiveness of the Specialized Care Unit (SCU); and

WHEREAS, through Contract #32300144 RDA has been creating an evaluation plan for the SCU in collaboration with the City and key stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, \$85,000 was allocated to expand RDA's scope of work to include an analysis of Communication Center data pertaining to behavioral health calls for a more comprehensive analysis of program effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, RDA is the most qualified consultant to receive the additional funding to add this scope to their evaluation design.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to amend the SCU evaluation Contract No. 32300144 with RDA by adding \$85,000 for a not-to-exceed amount of \$235,000. Funding is available in the FY2023 budget in the One-Time Grant Fund (Fund 336) and General Fund 011.

