



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
January 30, 2024

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: Revenue Contract: 2024 Community Services Block Grant

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to accept Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) Contract Number 24F-3001 for the amount of \$299,495, and execute any resultant agreements and amendments including amendments that may decrease or increase the contract amount or add discretionary funding, or to change the contract term, or to update contract terms, to provide low-income services for the time period January 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025, with the option to extend the contract period as amended by the California State Department of Community Services and Development.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Berkeley's CSBG allocation for the period of January 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025 is \$299,495 (Fund 334). The CSBG allocation amount is included in the City's anti-poverty Community Action Fund and supports oversight and management of anti-poverty funds within the Department of Health, Housing and Community Services (HHCS). CSBG funding is distributed annually; however, the contract period extends an additional five months with no additional funding to provide recipients with adequate time to complete reports and submit payment requests.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley receives CSBG to support anti-poverty programs because it is a Community Action Agency (CAA). CSBG funds are part of the federal Department of Health and Human Services budget passed through the state to local CAAs. The City of Berkeley uses its CSBG entitlement to fund community service programs.

The Human Welfare and Community Action Commission (HWCAC) acts as the federally mandated tri-partite advisory board for CSBG funding. As such, it is responsible for reviewing performance of funded programs, reviewing compliance with the implementation of the community action program, and advising Council on CSBG funding decisions. The Berkeley City Council is the decision-making body and is thus responsible for all final CSBG funding decisions.

At the time of the FY24 award, the HWCAC was unable to achieve a quorum to recommend that Council accept the 2024 CSBG funding. However, City Council, being the decision-making body, is ultimately responsible for all CSBG funding decisions, including the acceptance of CSBG funding. Therefore, Council is authorized to accept CSBG funding in the event that the HWCAC is unable to meet due to a lack of quorum or other reason.

BACKGROUND

CSBG provides supplemental support for the City of Berkeley's anti-poverty efforts. In 2021, the award was \$275,106, and in 2022 the award slightly decreased to \$274,202. In 2023, the award increased to the amount of \$312,302. CSBG funds supplement anti-poverty General Funds which are used for other critical community services, including disability and senior services, medical care, child care, and additional homeless services. Funding is awarded to activities through the City's Community Agency RFP process.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with the subject of this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The CSBG is necessary to support the provision of services for residents living in poverty in Berkeley.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

No alternative actions were considered. Rejecting CSBG funding would reduce funding for services to low-income Berkeley residents, which would negatively impact low-income services in Berkeley.

CONTACT PERSON

Mary-Claire Katz, Associate Management Analyst, HHCS, (510) 981-5414.

Attachments:
1: Resolution

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

REVENUE CONTRACT: 2024 COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG)

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley is a Community Action Agency and receives CSBG funds as the Berkeley Community Action Agency to support anti-poverty programs; and

WHEREAS, the Human Welfare and Community Action Commission (HWCAC) acts as an advisory tripartite Board to the Council providing public participation in the governing process; and

WHEREAS, the HWCAC currently has one commissioner, and so is unable to achieve a quorum to recommend that Council accept the 2024 CSBG funding; and

WHEREAS, Council is the decision-making body responsible for all CSBG funding decisions, including the acceptance of CSBG funding, and is therefore authorized to accept CSBG funding in the event that the HWCAC is unable to meet due to a lack of quorum; and

WHEREAS, this CSBG revenue contract is for the period of January 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025, with the option to extend the contract period and/or accept amendments that either increase the contract amount and/or update contract terms, for a contract amount of \$299,495 (Fund 334); and

WHEREAS, the funds have historically been used to support anti-poverty services and to support City of Berkeley oversight and management of anti-poverty programs (Fund 334).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or her designee is authorized to accept Community Service Block Grant Contract Number 24F-3001 for the amount of \$299,495, and execute any resultant agreements and amendments including amendments that may decrease or increase the contract amount or add discretionary funding, or to change the contract term, or to update contract terms, to provide low-income services for the time period January 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025, with the option to extend the contract period as amended by the California State Department of Community Services and Development. A record signature copy of said agreement and any amendments shall be on file in the office of the City Clerk.

