



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
January 24, 2017

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: *DWR* Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Paul Buddenhagen, Director, Health, Housing and Community Services Department

Subject: Revenue Contract: Community Services Block Grant for Calendar Year 2017

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to accept the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Contract Number 17F-2001 for the initial amount of \$70,482, and execute any resultant agreements and amendments that may increase the contract amount up to an estimated \$265,577 to provide services for low-income people for the period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Berkeley's Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) allocation for the period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 is estimated to be \$265,577 (Community Action Program Fund - 351-7902-331-1012). The first advance of \$70,482 represents a portion of the total funding staff expects to be authorized once the City of Berkeley's final funding amount is known. CSBG funds in the amount of \$250,910 were initially budgeted for calendar year 2017. Staff expects the total amount of CSBG funding for 2017 will not exceed \$265,577. Once the final CSBG funding amount for 2017 is known, the additional appropriation will be made as part of the Second Amendment to the FY 2017 Annual Appropriations Ordinance. 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 Health, Housing and Community Services Department. This revenue contract has been entered into the City's contract management system and assigned CMS No. ARSLA.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley is a Community Action Agency (CAA) and therefore receives Community Services Block Grant funds (CSBG) to support anti-poverty programs. CSBG funds are part of the federal Department of Health and Human Services budget passed through the state to local CAAs. Historically, the City of Berkeley has awarded Community Services Block Grant funds to homeless programs.

In recent years, the State Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) has issued contracts to CAAs, advancing only that portion of the estimated full award that has been approved by Congress as part of the federal budget continuing resolution. City of Berkeley staff estimates that Berkeley's final award amount will be \$265,577. After this initial contract is awarded, staff expects future amendments to this contract, each one increasing the amount of the contract up to this estimate.

In the FY 2017 Community Agency Allocations, a portion of the CSBG grant was allocated to Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency (BOSS) for the period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 to provide safety net services for homeless people. The award for July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 was included in the City's two-year budget adopted in June 2016. The final award amount is dependent upon the final City of Berkeley CSBG allocation.

In 2017, approximately \$79,662 will be awarded to BOSS and an additional \$79,662 will be awarded as part of the next two-year community agency funding process; the remainder (up to \$90,952) will continue funding the Housing and Community Services Department to support oversight and management of anti-poverty programs.

At its October 19, 2016 meeting, the Human Welfare and Community Action Commission (HWCAC) passed a motion to recommend that the City accept the CSBG Funds and contract for 2017. (M/S/C: Sood/McMullan. Ayes: Choi, Bookstein, Dunner, Sood, McMullan, Davila. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Omodele (excused), and Browne). The HWCAC acts as an advisory tri-partite Board to the Council providing public participation in the administration of the CSBG funds. CSBG funds complement 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.

#### BACKGROUND

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) provided anti-poverty funds to the City of Berkeley at a minimum funded level. The City received \$160,000 until 2008. In 2008, the award for minimum-funded agencies increased to \$259,646 annually; in 2013 the award reduced to \$244,908. In 2016, the award was increased to \$265,577.

Final allocation amounts for Community Action Agencies for calendar year 2017 are not yet known and are dependent upon federal Congressional action. Staff estimates that the City's 2017 CSBG allocation will be approximately \$265,577. Once Congress passes the portion of the federal government's budget which includes funding for the CSBG program for the current federal fiscal year, staff expect the State, which passes funds through to the City of Berkeley, to award the final amount through an amendment to this contract.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Community Services Block Grant is necessary to support the provision of services to those residents living in poverty in Berkeley.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Rejecting CSBG funding would reduce funding for services to low-income Berkeley residents and HHCS staffing. This would negatively impact low-income services in Berkeley.

CONTACT PERSON

Wingyin Wong, Community Services Specialist II, HH&CS Department, (510) 981-5428

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

REVENUE CONTRACT: 2017 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 tri-partite Board to the Council providing public participation in the governing process; and

WHEREAS, at the October 19, 2016 HWCAC meeting a motion was passed recommending that the City accept the Community Service Block Grant Funds; and

WHEREAS, this CSBG revenue contract covers the calendar year 2017 (January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017) for an initial contract amount of \$70,482 (351-7902-331-1012), CMS No. ARSLA; and

WHEREAS, the final allocation amount for the Berkeley Community Action Agency for calendar year 2017 are not yet known and are dependent upon federal Congressional budget action. It is currently estimated that the allocation for 2017 will be \$265,577; 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 (budget code 351-7701-463-various to 351-7906-463-various).

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 17F-2001 for the initial amount of \$70,482, and execute any resultant agreements and amendments including amendments that may increase the contract amount up to an estimated \$265,577 to provide low-income services for the time period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017. A record signature copy of said agreement and any amendments shall be on file in the office of the City Clerk.