



CITY COUNCILMEMBER
RIGEL ROBINSON
DISTRICT 7

18

CONSENT CALENDAR
March 26, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmembers Rigel Robinson, Kate Harrison, Sophie Hahn and Cheryl Davila
Subject: The Suitcase Clinic: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds to General Fund and Grant of Such Fund

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$500 per Councilmember including \$250 from Councilmember Robinson, to The Suitcase Clinic to assist in the expansion of its free laundry program, with funds relinquished to the City's general fund for this purpose from the discretionary Council Office Budgets of Councilmember Robinson and any other Councilmembers who would like to contribute.

BACKGROUND

The Suitcase Clinic is a UC Berkeley student organization and volunteer community that offers free health and social services to underserved populations, including unhoused Berkeley residents. It also strives to educate students, engage in community organization, and support public policy efforts that address homelessness in the local community.

The Suitcase Clinic is requesting funds for the expansion of its free laundry program for those experiencing poverty or homelessness. Over the past few months, they have seen a spike in the use of our service that is currently offered on the second Tuesday of each month. Because free laundry services are lacking in Berkeley they would like to expand the program to increase access to the basic right of clean clothing.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No General Fund impact; \$250 is available from Councilmember Robinson's Office Budget discretionary accounts.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

No Impact

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Rigel Robinson, (510) 981-7170

Attachments:

1: Resolution for Council Expenditures

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

AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS FOR A GRANT TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SERVICES FOR A MUNICIPAL PUBLIC PURPOSE

WHEREAS, Councilmember Rigel Robinson has surplus funds in his office expenditure account; and

WHEREAS, a California non-profit tax exempt corporation, The Suitcase Clinic, seeks funds in the amount of \$500 to expand its free laundry service for the Berkeley community; and

WHEREAS, the provision of such services would fulfill the municipal public purpose of allowing all Berkeley residents, regardless of their means, to have access to clean clothing, an amenity fundamentally necessary for human dignity.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by the Mayor and Councilmembers from their Council Office Budget up to \$500 per office shall be granted to The Suitcase Clinic to fund expanded free laundry services.