



Councilmember
Cheryl Davila
District 2

CONSENT CALENDAR
April 30, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Cheryl Davila
Subject: Spiral Gardens and Movement Generation Justice & Ecology Project: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds to General Fund and Grant of Such Funds

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$250 per Councilmember including \$250 from Councilmember Cheryl Davila, to support the Spiral Gardens and Movement Generation Justice & Ecology Project's May 11, 2019, welcoming of Leah Penniman for a wonderful talk and dialogue about *Farming While Black: Soul Fire Farm's Practical Guide to Liberation on Land*: her new book with funds relinquished to the City's general fund for this purpose from the discretionary Council Office Budgets of Councilmember Davila and any other Councilmembers who would like to contribute.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

No General Fund impact; \$250 is available from Councilmember Cheryl Davila's Council Office Budget discretionary account (011 11 102 000 0000 000 411).

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Providing insight, inspiration and education on food sovereignty, an important topic when many are now being confronted with food insecurity.

BACKGROUND

We are proposing that the City Council make a minimum grant of \$100 to Movement Generation and Spiral Gardens work with Bay Area Farmers of Color and the author Leah Penniman. Leah is a Black Kreyol farmer, author, mother, and food justice activist who has been tending the soil and organizing for an anti-racist food system for over 20 years. Leah currently serves as founding co-executive director of Soul Fire Farm in Grafton, New York, a people-of-color led project that works toward food and land justice. Through programs such as the Black-Latinx Farmers Immersion, a sliding-scale farmshare CSA, and Youth Food Justice leadership training, Soul Fire Farm is part of a global network of farmers working to increase farmland stewardship by people of color,

restore Afro-indigenous farming practices, and end food apartheid. And now, with the new book Farming While Black, Soul Fire Farm extends that work by offering the first comprehensive manual for African-heritage people ready to reclaim our rightful place of dignified agency in the food system. A panel discussion will be held on May 11, 2019, with some amazing Bay Area Farmers of Color who will share their reflections on their work and the state of the movement for food sovereignty.

CONTACT PERSON

Cheryl Davila, Councilmember, District 2 510.981.7120

ATTACHMENTS: 1: Resolution

2: Flyer

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 Cheryl Davila has surplus funds in her office expenditure account (budget code 011 11 102 000 0000 000 411); and

WHEREAS, a California non-profit tax-exempt corporation Movement Strategy Center and Spiral Gardens seeks funds in the amount of \$250 for the community event on May 11, 2019, with an author and Bay Area Black Farmers of Color,

WHEREAS, Movement Strategy Center and Spiral Gardens are providing inspiration and education by discussions on the state of the movement for food sovereignty and sound nutrition..

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 \$250 per office shall be granted to Movement Strategy Center to fund the panel discussions.



FARMING WHILE BLACK

a book talk with author
LEAH PENNIMAN
of Soul Fire Farm
+ Panel with Bay Area
Farmers of Color

Saturday, May 11, 2019, 1-3 PM
@ **Spiral Gardens Community Farm**
across the street from
2850 Sacramento St. at Oregon St.
Berkeley, CA

