



Councilmember Ben Bartlett

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CONSENT CALENDAR

June 11, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Councilmembers Ben Bartlett & Cheryl Davila
 Subject: FY 2020-21 Budget Referral: Funding for Intercity Services

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Council refer \$203,286 annually to the budget process to support the Intercity Services.

- ICS' Workforce Services Proposal requested was for \$203,286; however, the Commission and the City Manager made a Joint Recommendation for \$101,351.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

\$101,351

- The financial implication of not receiving the full recommended amount will result in a fewer number of homeless individuals in the City of Berkeley being provided workforce services by Inter-City Services, Inc.
- 45% + of the homeless population in the city of Berkeley are African-American
- Inter-City Services, Inc.'s goal is to reduce the digital divide and focus on diversity in technology for Berkeley homeless populations.
- Please note that the majority of homeless populations lack the cyber and digital skills to participate in job search activities, search for job resources, and maintain employment.
- For these reasons, we are requesting to receive our full recommendation of \$203,286. Receiving this full amount will allow us to serve a larger homeless population in the city of Berkeley.

BACKGROUND

Inter-City Services (ICS) provide quality vocational skill training and educational programs that are high in quality and implemented by hardworking, dedicated staff. Providing an educational standard of excellence in post-secondary education, ICS offers a variety of financial aid programs in which qualifying students may be eligible for tuition-free training, counseling, career enhancement workshops, and lifetime job placement assistance. In addition, childcare and transportation stipends are provided in some cases.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Inter-City Services, Inc. (ICS) is a resource for the most marginalized and underserved people residing in the city of Berkeley. ICS's Workforce Training mission is based in part on the city's need to significantly increase the level of workforce services to Berkeley's Homeless. Over the next 4 years, ICS's goal is to become Berkeley's Hub for Homeless Job Seekers. We will put the full strength of our 35 years of experience providing rapid response workforce services to Berkeley's most vulnerable residents. We will provide effective state-of-the-art services which include: digital literacy, vocational skills training, job placement assistance, and support services for all at-risk residents. ICS' mission, through a collaborative effort with local businesses, government, education, community-based and faith-based entities, to provide workforce readiness for low/moderate income Berkeley residents in-demand occupations. Impoverished individuals are located citywide; hence, we will provide inclusive seamless services to help reduce the skills gap that causes the quality of life inequities. This makes ICS invaluable to the Berkeley Homeless population.

(1) ICS' Workforce Services Proposal requested was for \$203,286; however, the CM Recommended, by CM for \$101,351.

(2) The SSBPPE Commission's recommendations and adopt thirteen (15) organizations; however, not one of the agencies recommended for funding are serving the Homeless. ICS' proposal, "Hydrating the Homeless" was for \$200,000; however, we were not funded. Again, there was no agency that plans to serve the homeless. The SSBPPE must fund some kind of homeless services.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

No environmental impact.

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