



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
February 11, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Kelly Wallace, Interim Director, Health, Housing and Community Services Department

Subject: Contract No. 19F-4404: Community Services Block Grant Discretionary Funding for June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to modify the scope and deliverables for Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Contract Number 19F-4404 and execute any resultant agreements and amendments to provide services to low-income people for the period June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020. Instead of providing short-term rental assistance, CSBG funds will be used for a mobile shower program operated by Project We Hope's Dignity on Wheels.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

This action would redirect Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) discretionary funds allocated for the period June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020 in the amount of \$30,000 (Community Action Program Fund - 334-51-504-530-0000-000-000-431110-) to a different use. The CSBG allocation amount was already appropriated as part of the City's anti-poverty Community Action Fund for FY2020.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

On June 25, 2019, City Council authorized the City Manager and her designee to execute CSBG Contract Number 19F-4404 for the amount of \$30,000 (Resolution No. 68,970 N.S.). This funding was allocated to Shelter Plus Care for the period June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2020 to provide rental assistance services for formerly homeless individuals. CSBG funds were intended to be used for security deposits and rental subsidies for homeless residents for a temporary period until a new federal grant, which started January 1, 2020, could absorb the costs. Due mostly to a very tight housing market these funds remain available and can be redirected without impact to the Shelter Plus Care program.

In December, City staff were notified by Lava Mae, which has been providing a mobile shower service in Berkeley through private donations, that they would no longer be able to provide this service in Berkeley as they were changing their service model. They recommended that the City reach out to another provider of mobile shower services to

determine if they could assume the service. City staff met with representatives from Lava Mae and from Project We Hope's Dignity on Wheels program, which provides mobile showers for various cities, including the City of Oakland. For \$30,000, Dignity on Wheels would be able to provide two sessions of mobile shower service per week until May 31, 2020.

At its January 15, 2020 meeting, the Human Welfare and Community Action Commission (HWCAC) passed a motion (M/S/C: Bookstein/Dunner; Vote: Ayes - Dunner, Smith, Kohn, Bookstein, Deyhim, Romo, Sim; Noes – None; Abstain – Sood, Omodele, Behm-Steinberg; Absent - None) to recommend that City Council authorize the City Manager to approve the amended CSBG contract for 2020. The City Manager has the authority to enter into a contract for services totaling \$50,000 or less.

BACKGROUND

The City of Berkeley is a Community Action Agency (CAA) and 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. The HWCAC acts as an advisory tri-partite Board to the Council providing public participation in the administration of the CSBG funds.

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) provided discretionary anti-poverty funds to the City of Berkeley. The City received a one-time amount of \$30,000 of discretionary funds for the period of June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020. On April 1, 2019 the HWCAC recommended accepting these funds, and they were allocated to Shelter Plus Care to provide rental assistance to formerly homeless individuals.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Utilizing these one-time funds before their expiration to continue mobile shower services for homeless residents addresses an important City goal and objective of the CSBG program to assist low-income residents in Berkeley make strides towards self-sufficiency.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

No alternative actions were considered.

CONTACT PERSON

Mary-Claire Katz, Associate Management Analyst, Health, Housing & Community Services Department, (510) 981-5414

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

CONTRACT NO. 19F-4404: 2019 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 April 17, 2019 HWCAC meeting a motion was passed recommending that the City accept the Community Service Block Grant Discretionary Funds; and

WHEREAS, at the January 15, 2020 HWCAC meeting a motion was passed to recommend that City Council change the recipient from the Shelter Plus Care program to Project We Hope's Dignity on Wheels mobile shower program; and

WHEREAS, this CSBG revenue contract covers the calendar year 2019-2020 (June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2020) for the contract amount of \$30,000 (Community Action Program Fund - 334-51-504-530-0000-000-000-431110-), CMS No. YD82Z; and

WHEREAS, the funds have historically been used to support homeless services and will continue to support services for low-income Berkeley residents; (budget code (334-51-504-530-0000-000-444-Various to 334-51-504-535-0000-000-444-Various).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or her designee is authorized to modify the scope of services which are part of the Community Service Block Grant Contract Number 19F-4404, and to change the recipient from the Shelter Plus Care program to Project We Hope's Dignity on Wheels mobile shower program, and execute any resultant agreements and amendments that may increase the contract amount to provide low-income services for the time period June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020. A record signature copy of said agreement and any amendments shall be on file in the office of the City Clerk.

