



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
September 15, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Lisa Warhuus, Director, Health, Housing & Community Services Department

Subject: Revenue Contract: Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act & Subsequent Community Agency Agreements for Calendar Years 2020-2022

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to:

1. Execute a revenue agreement, and any amendments that may increase the projected amount, with the State of California's Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) for Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds (CSBG Contract No. 20F-3640) in the amount of \$373,097 to provide services in response to COVID-19; and
2. Execute an amendment to the existing revenue agreement totaling \$304,355 with CSD for COB annual CSBG allocation, adding \$2,751, bringing the total existing 2020 CSBG award to \$307,106; and
3. Execute an amendment to an existing \$30,000 contract with WeHOPE (Contract No. 32000206) to provide shower and laundry services from August 1, 2020 through May 31, 2022, adding \$185,408 for a total not to exceed \$215,408; and
4. Execute additional new or amended agreements, for up to \$142,917 plus any amended amounts resulting in an increased contract amount, with various service providers using CSBG CARES Act funding to address the short-term and long-term impacts of COVID-19, such as mobile showers, meals for the unhoused, hygiene services such as porta-potties and handwashing stations, or other services for low-income persons as allowed under CSBG funds; and
5. Allocate the allowable 12% (\$44,772) of CSBG CARES Act funds to support City staff administering the funds.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

CSBG CARES Act Funding: CSD has awarded the City of Berkeley CSBG CARES Act funding in the amount of \$373,097 (Budget Code: 334-51-504-530-2075-000-444-Variou) which is available until May 31, 2022. The funds will be appropriated as part of the First Amendment to the FY 2021 Annual Appropriations Ordinance (AAO #1).

2020 CSBG Adjusted Funding: On July 28, 2020, City Council authorized the City Manager or her designee to execute an amendment to City Contract No. 42000079 with the State of California's Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) for 2020 CSBG funds (CSBG Contract No. 20F-3001) to increase the amount to \$304,355 as part of the 2020 CSBG second release of funds (April 21, 2020), and extend the contract period to May 31, 2021, and to execute any resultant agreements and amendments to provide services to low-income people for the period January 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021. On July 1, 2020 CSD issued a second release of funds to the City of Berkeley in the amount of \$2,751, bringing the total 2020 CSBG award to \$307,106 (Budget Code: 334-51-504-530-0000-000-000-431110) for the City of Berkeley. These additional funds will be appropriated as part of the FY21 AAO #1.

The City Manager recommends adding \$185,408 in CSBG CARES Act funds to an existing agreement with WeHOPE (Contract No. 32000206), for a new total contract amount of \$215,408 and extending the contract to May 31, 2022.

Due to the nature of the COVID-19 emergency, the City Manager requests the authority to execute additional new or amended agreements, up to \$142,917, with various service providers using adjusted 2020 CSBG funds and/or CSBG CARES Act funding, as allowable, to address the short-term and long-term impacts of COVID-19, such as mobile showers, meals for the unhoused, hygiene services such as porta-potties and handwashing stations, or other eligible services or supplies for low-income persons as allowed under CSBG funds.

Additionally, the City Manager is proposing that that the allowable 12% (\$44,772) of CSBG CARES Act funds be used to administer the funds. A summary of all funding is shown below:

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

On March 27, 2020, Congress enacted the CARES Act, which included supplemental CSBG funding. The purpose of the supplemental CSBG CARES Act funds is to "prevent, respond to, or prepare for coronavirus" as well as address both the short-term and long-term impacts of COVID-19. The CSBG CARES Act funding follows many of the rules and requirements of the regular CSBG Act, particularly in the use of funds to address the needs of low-income people.

In April of 2020 CSD announced they would allocate CSBG CARES Act funds to the City of Berkeley. On May 12, 2020, City Council adopted the first reading of an Ordinance amending the FY 2020 Annual Appropriations Ordinance No. 7,694–N.S. for fiscal year 2020, which included the acceptance of estimated CSBG CARES Act funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus (COVID-19). In July, CSD notified the City of Berkeley that it revised the final CSBG CARES Act funding amount.

The City of Berkeley entered into a contract in February 2020 with WeHOPE to operate the Dignity on Wheels program, a mobile shower and laundry service for people living on the streets and in encampments. The City's normal allocation of CSBG funds was used for this purpose. This program, which operates at two locations weekly, is eligible for CSBG CARES Act funding. Staff recommend continuing this program through May 31, 2022.

Council approved an allocation of \$37,492 in CSBG CARES Act and CSBG discretionary funding to continue the Double Helping Hand program through the end of August and the delivery of non-perishable food to encampments through the end of September. The Double Helping Hand program is a partnership between the Downtown Berkeley Association (DBA) and a number of restaurants to provide nutritious to-go meals to unhoused individuals living outdoors for \$10 each. The City has contracted with the DBA at a cost of \$19,800 per month. Non-perishable food items cost approximately \$10,000 per month. The City may allocate additional CSBG CARES Act funding to this effort if the Double Helping Hand program continues. CSBG CARES Act funds will also be used to support unhoused individuals with additional hygiene resources to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Through its Emergency Operations Center, the City added 14 porta-potties and 27 handwashing stations at various locations near where unhoused residents live with Homeless Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP) funds. These funds have been exhausted and CSBG CARES Act funds can be used for these costs.

BACKGROUND

The City of Berkeley is a Community Action Agency (CAA) and receives Community Services Block Grant funds (CSBG) to support programs for residents with incomes at 120% of the federal poverty level and below. CSBG funds are part of the federal Department of Health and Human Services budget passed through the state to local CAAs. CSBG funds are used as part of the City's commitment to anti-poverty efforts for critical community services, including providing healthcare services to low-income residents. In past years, the Human Welfare and Community Action Commission (HWCAC), which acts as an advisory tri-partite Board to the Council, has provided public participation in the administration of the CSBG funds, and has made a recommendation to Council as to how these funds should be allocated. However, due to the impact of COVID-19 on the ability of City commissions to do business, the HWCAC has not been able to meet and vote upon a recommendation.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The CSBG is an important source of funding for services that help Berkeley residents living at or below 120% of the federal poverty line.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Rejecting CSBG funding would reduce funding for those living in poverty in Berkeley.

CONTACT PERSON

Mary-Claire Katz, Associate Management Analyst, HHCS Department, (510) 981-5414

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

CONTRACTS AND AMENDMENTS WITH CALIFORNIA'S DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT (CSD) FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) CARES ACT FUNDS FOR SERVICES FOR LOW-INCOME RESIDENTS THROUGH MAY 2022

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, On December 10, 2019, City Council authorized the City Manager or her designee to execute a revenue contract (Contract No. 42000079) with the State of California Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) for a total of \$266,863 for calendar year 2020 (Budget Code: 334-51-504-530-0000-000-000-431110); and

WHEREAS, on May 19, 2020 CSD notified the City Manager that the 2020 allocation would increase by \$5,492 and that the City was awarded an additional \$32,000 in CSBG discretionary funding, which is available for use until May 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the City has existing contracts with Lifelong (Contract #31900225 totaling \$160,000) and the Downtown Berkeley Association (Contract # 32000238, totaling \$37,492) supported with CSBG 2020 funds; and

WHEREAS, On May 12, 2020, City Council adopted the first reading of an Ordinance amending the FY 2020 Annual Appropriations Ordinance No. 7,694–N.S. for fiscal year 2020, which included an adjustment for the acceptance of CSBG funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus (COVID-19) in the amount of \$200,000; and

WHEREAS, on June 29, 2020, CSD issued a revised CSBG CARES Act allocation in the amount of \$373,097 (Budget Code: 334-51-504-530-2075-000-444-Various); and

WHEREAS, the City Manager recommends expanding shower and laundry services for unhoused residents and providing food, hygiene and other services to low-income residents to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or her designee is authorized to

1. Execute a revenue agreement with the State of California's Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) for Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds (CSBG Contract No. 20F-3640) in the amount of \$373,097 to provide services in response to COVID-19; and

September 15, 2020

2. Execute any and all amendments to CSBG Contract No. 20F-3640 that may increase the contract amount to provide services in response to COVID-19; and
3. Execute an amendment to an existing revenue agreement totaling \$304,355 with CSD for CSBG funds, adding \$2,751, bringing the total 2020 CSBG award to \$307,106; and
4. Execute an amendment to an existing \$30,000 contract with WeHOPE (Contract No. 32000206) to provide mobile shower and laundry services from August 1, 2020 through May 31, 2022, adding \$185,408 for a total not to exceed \$215,408; and
5. Execute additional new or amended agreements, for up to \$142,917 plus any amended amounts resulting in an increased contract amount, with various service providers using CSBG CARES Act funding to address the short-term and long-term impacts of COVID-19, such as mobile showers, meals for the unhoused, hygiene services such as porta-potties and handwashing stations, or other services for low-income persons as allowed under CSBG funds; and
6. Allocate the allowable 12% (\$44,772) of CSBG CARES Act funds to support City staff administering the funds.

A recorded signature copy of said agreements and any amendments shall be on file in the office of the City Clerk.