



Office of the City Manager

RECESS ITEM
CONSENT CALENDAR
May 7, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
Submitted by: Tanya Bustamante, Interim Deputy Director, Health, Housing, and
Community Services
Subject: Contract: Health Officer Coverage

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution ratifying the action taken by the City Manager during recess to execute a contract with Dr. Lisa Hernandez for Health Officer services during periods when the City Health Officer is out of the office for the period April 1, 2024 through April 1, 2026 in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.

NEGATIVE EFFECT IF ACTION IS DELAYED UNTIL AFTER COUNCIL RECESS

The City will have a gap in Health Officer coverage when the Health Officer is out of the office and unavailable.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Costs for Health Officer coverage will be paid for by the Future of Public Health grant (Fund 302). Payment will be \$50 per hour/\$1,200 per day. Total costs are not to exceed \$30,000.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley receives funding from the California Department of Public Health through the Future of Public Health grant. The funding requires each local health jurisdiction to have Health Officer on-call coverage at all times. The City of Berkeley currently has no plan for coverage when the City Health Officer is out of the office.

BACKGROUND

Most public health jurisdictions have on-call Health Officer coverage to address urgent communicable disease and other public health issues. Additionally, this coverage is required by the Future of Public Health grant. Dr. Hernandez served as Health Officer for the City of Berkeley for five years, until July 2023. The City Council is asked to approve Health Officer coverage, as Council also approves appointment of an Interim or Permanent Health Officer.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

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

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Health Officer coverage is required by the Future of Public Health grant, and may be needed if urgent public health issues arise.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The City could continue to have periodic gaps in Health Officer coverage when the Health Officer is unavailable.

CONTACT PERSON

Anju Goel, MD, MPH, Interim Health Officer, HHCS, 510-981-5292

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

CONTRACT: DR. LISA HERNANDEZ FOR HEALTH OFFICER SERVICES DURING PERIODS WHEN THE CITY HEALTH OFFICER IS OUT OF OFFICE

WHEREAS, most public health jurisdictions have on-call Health Officer coverage to address urgent communicable disease and other public health issues; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley receives funding from the California Department of Public Health through the Future of Public Health grant, which requires each local health jurisdiction to have Health Officer coverage at all times; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hernandez served as the Health Officer for the City of Berkeley for five years, and is willing to provide coverage for the City of Berkeley again; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley to adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to execute a contract and any amendments with Dr. Lisa Hernandez from April 1, 2024 to April 1, 2026 in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00

