



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR

January 19, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

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

Subject: Revenue Contract: Community Services Block Grant for Calendar Year 2021

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to accept the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Contract Number 21F-4001 for the amount of \$275,106 to provide services for low-income people for the period January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021, with the option to extend the contract period through May 31, 2022.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Berkeley's Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) allocation for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, with the option to extend the contract period through May 31, 2022, is \$275,106 (Community Action Program Fund - 334-51-504-530-0000-000-000-431110-). The CSBG allocation amount is included in the City's anti-poverty Community Action Fund and supports oversight and management of anti-poverty funds within the Health, Housing and Community Services Department.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley is a Community Action Agency (CAA) and therefore 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. Historically, the City of Berkeley has awarded Community Services Block Grant funds to community service programs.

The Human Welfare and Community Action Commission (HWCAC) acts as the tripartite advisory Board for CSBG funding. As such, it is responsible for reviewing performance of funded programs, reviewing compliance with the implementation of the community action program, and advising Council on CSBG funding decisions. The Berkeley City Council is responsible for all final CSBG funding decisions.

At its December 2, 2020 meeting, the HWCAC passed a motion to recommend that the City accept the CSBG Funds and contract for 2021. (M/S/C: Dunner/Romo. Ayes: – Dunner, Sood, Kohn, Omodele, Behm-Steinbeg Yun, Romo, Sim. Noes: None. Abstain:

None. Absent: Smith. CSBG funds complement anti-poverty General Funds which are used for other critical community services, including disability and senior services, medical care, child care, and additional homeless services.

BACKGROUND

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) supports the City of Berkeley's anti-poverty efforts at a minimum funded level. The City received \$160,000 until December of 2005. In 2006 the award for minimum-funded agencies was increased to \$173,556. In 2008, the award for minimum-funded agencies increased to \$259,646 annually; in 2013 the award was reduced to \$244,908. In 2016 and 2017, the annual award was increased to \$265,577. In 2019 and 2020, the award was increased to \$266,863 and \$307,106, respectively.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Community Services Block Grant is necessary to support the provision of services for residents living in poverty in Berkeley.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Rejecting CSBG funding would reduce funding for services to low-income Berkeley residents. This would negatively impact low-income services in Berkeley.

CONTACT PERSON

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

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

REVENUE CONTRACT: 2021 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 December 9, 2020 HWCAC meeting a motion was passed recommending that the City accept the Community Service Block Grant Funds; and

WHEREAS, this CSBG revenue contract covers the calendar year 2021 with the option to extend the contract period through May 31, 2022 (January 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022) for a contract amount of \$275,106 (334-51-504-530-0000-000-000-431110); and

WHEREAS, the funds have historically been used to support anti-poverty services and to support City of Berkeley oversight and management of anti-poverty programs (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 accept Community Service Block Grant Contract Number 21F-4001 for the amount of \$275,106, and execute any resultant agreements and amendments including amendments that may increase the contract amount or add discretionary funding, or to change the contract term, to provide low-income services for the time period January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021, with the option to extend the contract period through May 31, 2022. A record signature copy of said agreement and any amendments shall be on file in the office of the City Clerk.

