



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
February 14, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

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

Subject: Revenue Contract: 2023 Community Services Block Grant

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to accept the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Contract Number 23F-4001 in the amount of \$293,705 to provide services for low-income people for the period January 1, 2023 to May 31, 2024.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Berkeley's CSBG allocation for the period of January 1, 2023 to May 31, 2024 is \$293,705 (Community Action Program Fund #334). 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 Department of Health, Housing and Community Services (HHCS). Unlike the City's budget, the CSBG grant period starts with the calendar year. Because the 17-month grant period spans two City fiscal years, half of the funds will be budgeted in FY 2023 and the other half will be budgeted in FY 2024. The additional appropriation will be made as part of the Second Amendment to the FY 2023 Annual Appropriations Ordinance.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City is a Community Action Agency (CAA) and therefore receives 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 has awarded CSBG 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 January 18, 2023 meeting, the HWCAC passed a motion to recommend that the City accept the CSBG Funds and contract for 2023 (M/S/C: Sood/Bookstein. Ayes: Bookstein, Lippman, Sood, Zou. Noes: None. Abstain: Behm-Steinberg. Absent: Sim.

BACKGROUND

CSBG supports the City of Berkeley's anti-poverty efforts at a minimum funded level. In 2016 and 2017, the City received \$265,577. In 2019 and 2020, the award was increased to \$266,863 and \$307,106, respectively. In 2021, the award was \$275,106, and in 2022 the award slightly decreased to \$274,202. 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.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

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

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The CSBG is necessary to support the provision of services for residents living in poverty in Berkeley.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The City could choose to reject CSBG funding. This would reduce funding available for services to low-income Berkeley residents and is therefore not recommended.

CONTACT PERSON

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

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

REVENUE CONTRACT: 2023 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 January 18, 2023 HWCAC meeting a motion was passed recommending that the City accept the Community Service Block Grant Funds; and

WHEREAS, this CSBG revenue contract is for the period of January 1, 2023 to May 31, 2024, with the option to extend the contract period and/or accept amendments that either increase the contract amount and/or update contract terms, for a contract amount of \$293,705 (Fund 334); 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 (Fund 334).

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 23F-4001 for the amount of \$293,705, and execute any resultant agreements and amendments including amendments that may decrease or increase the contract amount or add discretionary funding, or to change the contract term, or to update contract terms, to provide low-income services for the time period January 1, 2023 to May 31, 2024, with the option to extend the contract period as amended by the California State Department of Community Services and Development. A record signature copy of said agreement and any amendments shall be on file in the office of the City Clerk.

