



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
January 21, 2014

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From:  Christine Daniel, City Manager  
Submitted by: Jane Micallef, Director, Health, Housing and Community Services Department  
Subject: Revenue Contract: Community Services Block Grant for Calendar Year 2014

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to accept the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Contract Number 14F-3001 for the initial amount of \$75,674, and execute any resultant agreements and amendments that may increase the contract amount up to an estimated \$245,000 to provide low-income services for the period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Berkeley's Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) allocation for the period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 is estimated to be \$245,000 (Community Action Program Fund - 351-7902-331-1012). The first advance of \$75,674 represents a portion of the total funding staff expects to be authorized once the federal budget for this federal fiscal year is adopted. CSBG funds in the amount of \$229,240 were budgeted for FY 2014. Staff expects the total amount of CSBG funding for FY 2014 will not exceed \$245,000, which represents one-half of the City's FY 2014 CSBG allocation and one-half of the City's FY 2015 CSBG allocation. Once the final CSBG funding amount for 2014 is known, the additional appropriation will be made as part of the Second Amendment to the FY 2014 Annual Appropriations Ordinance. 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. This revenue contract has been entered into the City's contract management system and assigned CMS No. GMLIF.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

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. Historically, the City of Berkeley has awarded Community Services Block Grant funds to homeless programs.

In recent years, the State Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) has issued contracts to CAAs, advancing only that portion of the estimated full award that has been approved by Congress as part of the federal budget continuing resolution. City of Berkeley staff estimates that Berkeley's final award amount will be \$245,000. After this initial contract is awarded, staff expects future amendments to this contract, each one increasing the amount of the contract up to this estimate.

In the FY 2014 Community Agency Allocations, a portion of the CSBG grant was allocated to Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency (BOSS) for the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 to provide safety net services for homeless people. The award for July 1, 2013 through December 31, 2014 was included in the City's two-year budget adopted in June 2013. The final award amount is dependent upon the final City of Berkeley CSBG allocation.

In 2014, approximately \$159,324 will be awarded to BOSS; the remainder (up to \$85,676) will continue funding the Housing and Community Services Department to support oversight and management of anti-poverty programs.

At its November 20, 2013 meeting, the Human Welfare and Community Action Commission (HWCAC) passed a motion (M/S/C: McMullan/Davila. Ayes: Owen, Davis, Ramesh, Sood, Cross, McMullan, Flanders, and Davila. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Porter, Woodson, and Reagan.) to recommend that the City accept the CSBG Funds and contract for 2014. The HWCAC acts as an advisory tri-partite Board to the Council providing public participation in the administration of the CSBG funds. 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) provided anti-poverty funds to the City of Berkeley at a minimum funded level. The City received \$160,000 until 2008. In 2008, the award for minimum-funded agencies increased to \$259,646 annually; in 2011 the award amount increased slightly to \$259,993. In 2012, the award was reduced to \$252,454 and in 2013; the award was further reduced to \$244,908.

Final allocation amounts for Community Action Agencies for calendar year 2014 are not yet known and are dependent upon federal Congressional action. Staff estimates that the City's 2014 CSBG allocation will be approximately \$245,000. Once Congress passes the portion of the federal government's budget which includes funding for the CSBG program for the current federal fiscal year, staff expect the State, which passes funds through to the City of Berkeley, to award the final amount through an amendment to this contract.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

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

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Rejecting CSBG funding would reduce funding for Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency and HHCS staffing. This would negatively impact BOSS' ability to run programs for homeless clients in Berkeley.

CONTACT PERSON

Wingyin Wong, Community Services Specialist II, HH&CS Department, (510) 981-5428

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

REVENUE CONTRACT: 2014 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 November 20, 2013 HWCAC meeting a motion was passed that the City accept the Community Service Block Grant Funds; and

WHEREAS, this CSBG revenue contract covers the calendar year 2014 (January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014) for an initial contract amount of \$75,674 (351-7902-331-1012), CMS No. GMLIF; and

WHEREAS, final allocation amounts for Community Action Agencies for calendar year 2014 are not yet known and are dependent upon federal Congressional budget action. It is currently estimated that the City's CSBG allocation will be \$245,000; and

WHEREAS, the funds have historically been used to support homeless services and will continue to support services for low-income Berkeley residents; and to support City of Berkeley oversight and management of anti-poverty programs (budget code 351-7701-463-various to 351-7906-463-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 14F-3001 for the initial amount of \$75,674, and execute any resultant agreements and amendments including amendments that may increase the contract amount up to an estimated \$245,000 to provide low-income services for the time period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014. A record signature copy of said agreement and any amendments shall be on file in the office of the City Clerk.