



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Community Services
Department No.: 057
For Agenda Of: January 11, 2022
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: Yes
If Yes, date from: May 18, 2021
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department George Chapjian, Community Services Director
Director

Contact Info: Eva Camarena, Executive Assistant (805-568-2467)

SUBJECT: Racial Equity Grant Program Contract with The Fund for Santa Barbara

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Risk Management Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

- a) Determine that The Fund for Santa Barbara (“Fund”) operates grant making programs that are necessary to meet the social needs of the population of the county;
- b) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute the Agreement for Services with The Fund for Santa Barbara for administration of a Racial Equity Grant Program for a total maximum contract amount not to exceed \$267,300.00 for the period of January 11, 2022 through June 30, 2025 (“Agreement”);
- c) Direct staff to return to the Board to consider the Fund’s grant recommendations in accordance with the Agreement;
- d) Determine that the recommended actions are not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act under CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b) (5), because they consist of administrative activities that will not result in a direct or indirect physical change to the environment; and CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(4) because they consist of government fiscal activities that do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

Staff is requesting that the Board of Supervisors (Board) approve and authorize the Chair to execute an agreement with The Fund for Santa Barbara for the development and administration of a Racial Equity Grant Program. The funding available for this program is \$267,300, which originates from \$500,000 in equity funds allocated by the Board during FY 20-21 Budget Hearings.

Background:

During Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget hearings, the Board set aside \$500,000 in one-time funding to advance and support equity within Santa Barbara County. From the initial set-aside, a total of \$94,200 was allocated to Community Services Department pass-through initiatives, and \$135,000 was allocated to County Human Resources in support of the Join Hands Open Hearts and Minds Ignite Action and Navigate Change (“J.O.I.N.”) initiative. The Board directed staff to return with options for distributing the remaining \$270,800 in equity funds.

At the May 18, 2021 meeting, the Board unanimously voted for disbursement of the remaining \$270,800 to be administered through a grant making process led by The Fund for Santa Barbara (Fund), a community foundation that supports nonprofits working for social change in Santa Barbara County. In order to empower the community, the Fund uses a unique grant making process that utilizes a Grant Making Committee (GMC), which determines where funds should be spent. The GMC is made up of a diverse set of community members, each with a different perspective and background on the community. The Board included the condition that final award recommendations generated through the Fund’s grant process be presented to the Board prior to the Fund entering into contracts with selected grantees.

The Fund has created and outlined a grant program aimed at effecting the culture, policy and systems change necessary to advance racial equity and justice, and reverse the legacy of slavery and effects of racism in Santa Barbara County by investing in organizations in Santa Barbara County working on these issues. A \$3,500 payment has been made to the Fund for their work developing this grant program.

Applications will first be reviewed by the Fund’s Grant Making Subcommittee; then, the Fund Review Committee will make funding recommendations and forward their recommendations to the Fund’s Board of Directors for approval. Subsequently the recommendations will be presented to the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors for final approval. The RFP is anticipated to be released in January 2022, and grant applications will be due no later than February 28, 2022. Following grant review, the Fund will return to the Board in Spring 2022 with recommendations. Upon Board approval, the Fund will enter into grant agreements with the selected recipients. Grant award amounts would be up to \$100,000 for up to three years.

For fulfillment of the contract, the Fund will receive a 15% administrative fee (\$40,620), which will be deducted from the \$270,800 in equity funds. The contract funding will be disbursed to the Fund in three payments (Attachment A: Contract). The first payment will be made upon the completion of Task 1. Task 1 encompasses: announcing the grant program; holding grant workshops; receiving application submissions; compiling summaries of the applications; and disseminating submissions to reviewers. The second payment, which will include the grant funds, will be disbursed upon approval of the grant recommendations by the County. The last payment will be made upon submission of a written final report of the program detailing demographics and communities served.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

None. The Board previously appropriated \$500,000 in one-time equity funding at the June 2020 Budget hearings, of which \$267,300 is remaining.

Special Instructions:

Please send a copy of the Contract and Minute Order to Sarah York Rubin at srubin@countyofsb.org

Attachments:

Attachment A: Contract with The Fund for Santa Barbara

Authored by:

George Chapjian, Community Services Director