



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: April 19, 2022
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
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: County of Santa Barbara Racial Equity Fund Grant Disbursement
Recommendations

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

- a) Receive and file an interim report from The Fund for Santa Barbara (“The Fund”) regarding its administration of the County’s Racial Equity Grant Program and its recommended grant applicant selections.
- b) Approve and authorize The Fund for Santa Barbara to disburse the County’s Racial Equity Grant funds to selected applicants (Attachment A) through June 30, 2025 and in accordance with the Regranting Agreement between the County and The Fund, executed on January 11, 2022.
- c) 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 Fund for Santa Barbara to enter into contracts disbursing Racial Equity Grants to recommended grant applicants (Attachment A). 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:

At the May 18, 2021 meeting, the Board unanimously voted for disbursement of \$270,800 to be administered through a grantmaking process led by The Fund for Santa Barbara (The Fund), a community foundation that supports nonprofits working for social change in Santa Barbara County. Of those funds, \$3,500 were used to pay The Fund for research and development in support of the grant program prior to the contract being executed. The Board included the condition that final award recommendations be presented to the Board prior to The Fund entering into contracts with selected grantees. On January 11, 2022, the Board executed the contract with The Fund to administer the grant program (Attachment B).

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. The plan was partially informed by the recently completed Central Coast Regional Equity Study (Attachment C). The grant program was open to applicants that: are historically oppressed, marginalized, and underrepresented-led groups; supporting community members directly harmed by the racist policies and marginalized by systemic racism; with a core mission of addressing systemic racism.

The Fund released a request for proposals in January 2022 with a corresponding workshop. The Fund received sixteen applications requesting a total of \$885,550 (Attachment D). The applications were received and reviewed by The Fund's Grant Making Subcommittee, and final recommendations were approved by The Fund's Board of Directors on March 28, 2022. Upon Board of Supervisors approval, The Fund will enter into grant agreements with the six selected recipients (Attachment A). Grant award amounts range from \$14,400 to \$100,000 and will be for up to three years.

For fulfillment of the contract, The Fund will receive an administrative fee of \$40,800, which will be deducted from the \$270,800 in equity funds. A \$3,500 payment was previously made to The Fund for their work developing this grant program. The contract funding will be disbursed to The Fund in three payments. The first payment of \$16,704 encompassed the following work items: announcing the grant program; holding grant workshops; receiving application submissions; compiling summaries of the applications; and disseminating submissions to reviewers. After presenting an interim report to the Board (Attachments A, C, D) and upon approval of the grant recommendations by the County, a disbursement of \$246,884 will be paid to The Fund which includes the \$230,000 in grant funds and \$16,884 in administrative fees. The third and final payment to The Fund of \$3,712 will be disbursed upon the completion of a final report, which will include reports from the grantees.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Special Instructions:

Please send a copy of the minute order to Marcos Vargas at mvargas@fundforsantabarbara.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A: The Fund for Santa Barbara Recommendations for the County of Santa Barbara Racial Equity Fund Grant Disbursement

Attachment B: Executed Contract with The Fund for Santa Barbara

Attachment C: Link to The Fund for Santa Barbara Regional Equity Study

Attachment D: List of Applicants for the County of Santa Barbara Racial Equity Fund Grant

Authored by: George Chapjian, Director, Community Services Department

Ashley Watkins, Division Chief, County Sustainability

Sarah York Rubin, Exec. Director, County Office of Arts & Culture