



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: November 7, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: 3/5

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

Other Concurrence: CEO Budget

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

- a) Determine that Fund for Santa Barbara, Inc. (“The 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 Regranting Agreement with The Fund for Santa Barbara for administration of a Racial Equity Grant Program for a total maximum contract amount not to exceed \$275,000.00 for the period of November 7, 2023 through June 30, 2025 (“Agreement”);
- c) Direct staff to return to the Board to consider The Fund for Santa Barbara’s grant recommendations in accordance with the Agreement; and
- d) Approve the attached Budget Revision Request (Attachment C: BJE No. 0009407) for \$275,000; and
- e) 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:

This item is before the Board of Supervisors (“Board”) to approve an agreement with The Fund for Santa Barbara for the administration of a third cycle of the County of Santa Barbara Racial Equity Grant Program (“Program”) in the amount of \$275,000. At the June 16, 2023 Budget Hearings, the Board authorized \$500,000 of equity funds to be used for diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives.

Background:

In Fiscal Year 2021-2022, The Fund for Santa Barbara, Inc. (“The Fund”), a community foundation that supports nonprofits working for social change in Santa Barbara County, was contracted by the County for the development and administration of \$270,800 in equity funds allocated by the Board during the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget Hearings.

To develop the County of Santa Barbara Racial Equity Grant Program guidelines, The Fund worked with their Grant Making Committee, comprised of a diverse set of community members with different perspectives and backgrounds. For the first grant cycle of the program, 16 applications for equity funds were received by The Fund, totaling \$885,550 in requests. Final equity funding grant recommendations from The Fund were presented to the Board on May 18, 2022, and approved unanimously for disbursement.

At the July 12, 2022 meeting, the Board unanimously authorized an additional \$275,000 appropriation of equity funds to be disbursed through a second grant-making cycle administered by The Fund (“Second Cycle”). The Board also approved updated grant guidelines (“Guidelines”). The Guidelines also aim to effect 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 (Attachment A: Guidelines and Application). For the Second Cycle, 17 applications were received by The Fund, totaling \$1,288,473 in requests. Final Second Cycle grant recommendations from The Fund were presented to the Board on April 4, 2023, and approved unanimously for disbursement.

At the June 16, 2023 Budget Hearing, the Board unanimously authorized a \$500,000 appropriation of equity funds to be used for both internal and community diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives. If the Board approves a contract with The Fund to administer the Third Cycle, The Fund will use the Guidelines previously approved by the Board for the Second Cycle to develop recommendations for the disbursement of \$275,000 in equity grant funds.

Final Third Cycle grant recommendations from The Fund will be presented to the Board in Spring 2024. Upon Board approval, The Fund will enter into one-year grant agreements with the selected recipients, in grant award amounts of up to \$100,000 each

For fulfillment of the Agreement (Attachment B: Agreement), The Fund will receive a 15% administrative fee, in the amount of \$41,250, to be paid from the \$275,000 Third Cycle allocation. The Agreement funding will be disbursed to The Fund in three payments. 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 Board. The third and final payment will be made following The Fund's submission of a written final report of the Third Cycle of the Program detailing demographics and communities served.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes, upon approval of Budget Revision Request No. 0009407. The Board appropriated \$500,000 of General Funds in the FY 23-24 Adopted Budget for internal and community DEI initiatives such as the Racial Equity Grant Program. Of those equity funds, \$275,000 will be used for the Racial Equity Grant Program. The remaining \$225,000 funds an inclusion strategist position within the Human Resources Department and DEI program costs, including the countywide JOIN initiative.

Attachments:

Attachment A: County of Santa Barbara Racial Equity Grant Program Guidelines and Application

Attachment B: Regranting Agreement with The Fund for Santa Barbara

Attachment C: Budget Revision Request 0009407

Authored by:

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