



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: October 15, 2024
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Jesús Armas, Director, Community Services Department
Director(s) 805-568-2467
Contact Info: Sarah York Rubin, Executive Director, Office of Arts and Culture
805-568-3992

SUBJECT: **Contract with The Fund for Santa Barbara for Administration of the County Racial Equity Grant 2024-2026 Program Cycle**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- 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 administration of a Racial Equity Grant Program for a total maximum contract amount not to exceed \$275,000.00 for the period of September 17, 2024, through June 30, 2026 (“Agreement”); and
- c) Determine that the above recommended action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), as the action involves the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical 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 (“The Fund”), a community foundation that supports nonprofits working for social change in Santa Barbara County, to administer a fourth cycle of the County of Santa Barbara Racial Equity Grant Program (“Equity Grant”).

Established by the Board in 2021, the Equity Grant aims to effect the culture, policy, and systems change necessary to advance racial equity and justice and reverse the legacy of slavery and the effects of racism in Santa Barbara County by investing in local organizations working on these issues. The County worked with The Fund to develop the grant guidelines, and has partnered with The Fund for the administration of each cycle. To facilitate the program, The Fund works with their Grant Making Committee, comprised of a diverse set of community members with different perspectives and backgrounds, to review applications and make award recommendations.

At the County FY 2024-2025 Budget Hearing on June 11, 2024, the Board appropriated a \$275,000 set-aside in Racial Equity funding for the 2024-25 Equity Grant cycle.

Background:

In recognition of the negative impacts of systemic racism, The Board established the Equity Grant in 2021 as part of its commitment to eliminating the barriers affecting Black, Latinx, Indigenous, and Asian community members, as well as people of other diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds. Since the inception of the program, the Board has appropriated \$275,000 as part of each annual budget to fund it. Each cycle, the County has contracted The Fund for program administration. The administrative services include developing program guidelines, facilitating the application process, determining award recommendations, and disbursing funding to subgrantees. Staff continues to work with The Fund and The Board to further refine the Equity Grant program to support program alignment with County standards, priorities and workflow.

The grant opportunity will be announced no later than October 31, 2024 or following the execution of this Agreement (Attachment B: Agreement). For fulfillment of the Agreement, The Fund will receive a 15% administrative fee, in the amount of \$41,250, to be paid from the \$275,000 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 not be disbursed until the Board reviews and approves The Fund’s recommended grant awards. It is anticipated that staff will return to the Board with The Fund’s recommendations in March 2025. The third and final payment will be made following the completion of the program and The Fund’s submission of a written report to the County detailing demographics and communities served during the grant award period.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Sources	Current FY Cost:	Annualized On-going Cost:	Total One-Time Project Cost
General Fund	\$ 275,000.00		
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 275,000.00	\$ -	\$ -

Narrative:

The Board appropriated a \$275,000 set aside in the CSD FY 2024-25 Budget for the Equity Grant.

Staffing Impacts:

None

Attachments:

Attachment A: Regranting Agreement with The Fund for Santa Barbara

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

Authored by:

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