



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR

October 27, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager

Submitted by: Carianna Arredondo, Assistant to the City Manager

Subject: Contract No. 32500002 Amendment: Community Initiatives | Live Free USA for Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention Services

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to amend Contract No. 32500002 with Community Initiatives | Live Free USA for gun violence intervention and prevention services to add \$257,548 in Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP) grant funding pursuant to a budget modification approved by the California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), bringing the total contract not-to-exceed amount to \$2,874,768; extend the contract term through December 31, 2027; and update the scope of services and budget accordingly.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The proposed amendment incorporates an additional \$257,548 in SCIP funding into the contract through a BSCC-approved budget modification. These funds are being reallocated within the City's existing grant award and do not increase the total award or require additional General Fund support. The revised contract not-to-exceed amount of \$2,874,768 includes the original contract funding, previously authorized SCIP funding, the previously approved \$200,000 General Fund allocation, and the additional SCIP funding requested through this action. The General Fund allocation were awarded through the Mayor's final Budget Recommendations and will be appropriated as part of the Annual Appropriations Ordinance.

Contract funding component	Amount	Fund
Original contract funding	\$2,000,000	011
Previously authorized SCIP funding	\$417,220	336
FY 27-28 approved General Fund support	\$200,000	011
Additional SCIP funding under the approved budget modification	\$257,548	336
Total contract not-to-exceed amount	\$2,874,768	

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City's Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention Program (GVIPP) coordinates community-based outreach, violence interruption, and supportive services for individuals at elevated risk of firearm-related harm. Community Initiatives | Live Free USA serves as the City's community-based violence intervention partner, providing trauma-informed engagement, life coaching, case management, crisis stabilization, and referrals to services.

During SCIP implementation, the City identified \$210,044 in Crime Analyst personnel savings and \$47,504 in available technology funding within the original grant allocation. The Berkeley Police Department (BPD) supports redirecting these resources to strengthen Live Free USA's community-based services. BSCC approved the City's request to reallocate the combined \$257,548 for this purpose.

The proposed amendment incorporates these funds into the contract, updates the scope and budget, and extends the term through December 31, 2027. The amended scope supports proactive outreach, individualized service planning, ongoing participant engagement, and crisis stabilization following shooting incidents or credible threats of retaliation.

GVIPP advances the Strategic Plan goal to create a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared city.

Effective January 1, 2026, local agencies are required to satisfy noticing requirements for certain contracts for services that meet the criteria outlined in Government Code Section 3504.1 as amended by AB 339. This project does not meet the criteria in Government Code Section 3504.1 and is exempt from the noticing requirement.

BACKGROUND

GVIPP builds on the City's Reimagining Public Safety initiative and the 2023 Gun Violence Prevention Report, combining community-based intervention with law enforcement coordination.

The City entered into Contract No. 32500002 with Community Initiatives | Live Free USA on July 1, 2024, with an original not-to-exceed amount of \$2,000,000, to support program implementation.

The City subsequently received a \$1 million SCIP award to support Crime Analyst staffing, expanded Live Free USA services, and investigative technology. On July 29, 2025, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 71,907-N.S., authorizing acceptance of the award and related actions, including amendment of the Live Free USA contract. The grant allocation included \$417,220 for Live Free USA services.

In its June 9, 2026 report, Live Free reported reaching 56 individuals, maintaining 26 active participants, and completing 28 gun violence-related mediations. Eleven participants obtained employment, including 10 who remained employed; six secured stable housing; and 18 connected with additional programs and services. All five youth participants demonstrated educational progress, and three graduated from high school. Berkeley also recorded zero gun violence-related homicides or injuries in 2025, alongside GVIPP implementation and broader City public safety efforts. The June report highlighted NICJR's Cost of Gun Violence in Berkeley analysis, which estimated taxpayer costs of approximately \$3.2 million per fatal shooting and \$726,000 per nonfatal injury shooting. Applied to the shootings reported in 2024, these estimates total approximately \$13.3 million across local, county, and state systems, underscoring the human and fiscal importance of prevention.

During the FY2027–FY2028 budget process, Mayor Adena Ishii recommended \$200,000 in General Fund support for Live Free USA. The City Council incorporated this allocation into the biennial budget through Resolution No. 72,340-N.S., adopted June 23, 2026.

The proposed amendment builds on these prior funding commitments by incorporating the additional \$257,548 in SCIP funding approved through the budget modification described above. The revised total contract amount includes the previously approved General Fund allocation and \$674,768 in combined SCIP funding. The additional resources and extension through December 31, 2027 will support continued outreach, mediation, and life coaching, with anticipated outcomes of sustained participant engagement, reduced retaliation risk, and improved employment, housing, and educational stability.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

No direct environmental sustainability or climate impacts are anticipated from this contract amendment.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The proposed amendment aligns the contract amount, scope, and term with the additional funding identified for GVIPP implementation. It implements the City Council's \$200,000 General Fund allocation and incorporates \$257,548 in SCIP Grant resources into the service agreement. Continuing services through the existing contractor supports established participant relationships and coordination with City and community partners.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The City Council could decline the proposed amendment. Staff would then need to assess adjustments to service levels and duration and coordinate with BSCC regarding an alternative use of the reallocated SCIP funds.

The City Council could also authorize a smaller SCIP increase or shorter extension. This would require corresponding revisions to the scope, budget, and deliverables and may require further BSCC approval.

CONTACT PERSON

Carianna Arredondo, Assistant to the City Manager, City Manager's Office, 510-981-7007

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

CONTRACT NO. 32500002 AMENDMENT: COMMUNITY INITIATIVES | LIVE FREE USA TO ADD SCIP FUNDING FOR GUN VIOLENCE INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION SERVICES AND EXTEND THE TERM THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2027

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley entered into Contract No. 32500002 with Community Initiatives | Live Free USA on July 1, 2024, with an original not-to-exceed amount of \$2,000,000, to support the City's Gun Violence Intervention and Prevention Program (GVIPP); and

WHEREAS, on July 29, 2025, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 71,907-N.S., authorizing acceptance of a \$1,000,000 Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP) grant award from the California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) and related actions, including amendment of the Live Free USA contract, with \$417,220 allocated for expanded services; and

WHEREAS, on June 23, 2026, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 72,340-N.S., approving the FY2027–FY2028 biennial budget, including \$200,000 in General Fund support for Live Free USA through Mayor Adena Ishii's supplemental budget recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the City identified \$210,044 in Crime Analyst personnel savings and \$47,504 in available technology funding within the original SCIP grant allocation, totaling \$257,548; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Police Department supports redirecting these resources to strengthen Live Free USA's community-based violence intervention, outreach, and participant support services; and

WHEREAS, BSCC approved a budget modification reallocating this \$257,548 within the City's existing SCIP award without increasing the total grant award; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to incorporate the additional SCIP funding into Contract No. 32500002 and extend the contract term through December 31, 2027, to support continued GVIPP services.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or designee is authorized to amend Contract No. 32500002 with Community Initiatives | Live Free USA to:

1. Add \$257,548 in SCIP grant funding pursuant to the BSCC-approved budget modification, bringing the total contract not-to-exceed amount to \$2,874,768, inclusive of the previously approved \$200,000 General Fund allocation;
2. Extend the contract term through December 31, 2027; and
3. Update the scope of services and payment budget to reflect the additional funding and extended term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SCIP-funded expenditures shall comply with the approved grant budget, applicable grant conditions, and grant performance period. The extension of the City's contract term does not independently extend the SCIP grant performance period.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all other terms and conditions of Contract No. 32500002, as previously amended, shall remain in full force and effect.