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Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
November 17, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager

Submitted by: Scott Gilman, Director, Health, Housing, and Community Services

Subject: Acceptance of Fiscal Year 2027 Donations from Meals on Wheels of Alameda County (MOWAC) for the Berkeley Meals on Wheels Program

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution accepting donations for the Berkeley Meals on Wheels Program in a projected amount of $185,000 from the Meals on Wheels of Alameda County (MOWAC) agency, for Fiscal Year 2027 (FY2027).

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The donations will be received and deposited on a quarterly basis into Fund 111 Fund-Raising Activities and will be appropriated as part of the First Amendment to the FY 2027 Annual Appropriations Ordinance. These donations will support the cost of hourly personnel and operating expenses needed to provide meals to home-bound seniors by the City of Berkeley Meals on Wheels program.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Berkeley Meals on Wheels program contributes to the City's Strategic Plan goal to be a customer-focused organization that provides excellent, timely, easily accessible service to the community, particularly serving the older adult, homebound community. The Berkeley Meals on Wheels program provides approximately 50,000 nutritious meals to over 250 seniors each year.

MOWAC is a private, non-profit agency that raises funds for Meals on Wheels programs in Alameda County. MOWAC provides special grant funding and donations to programs to support the delivery of meals to home-bound seniors.

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 is a revenue contract, and it does not meet the criteria in Government Code Section 3504.1 and is exempt from the noticing requirement.

BACKGROUND

The City of Berkeley Meals on Wheels program is funded by an annual grant contract with the Alameda County Area Agency on Aging, donations by clients and community members and funding from the City's General Fund. Each Meals on Wheels program in the County is expected to support unfunded costs of the program to meet community needs. MOWAC helps programs meet additional needs by conducting its own fundraising efforts for the benefit of all programs countywide.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

The Berkeley Meals on Wheels program packages its meals in compostable containers to reduce landfill waste. The program also offers volunteer bicycle delivery routes.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Donations received from MOWAC will provide the Berkeley Meals on Wheels program with significant financial support that can be directly applied to both personnel and operating expenses for the program.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Refusing donations from MOWAC would not be consistent with the City's Strategic Plan goals or its efforts to sustain an Age-Friendly Berkeley and is not recommended.

CONTACT PERSON

Rhianna Babka, Aging Services Manager, HHCS, (510) 981-5410

Attachments:
1: Resolution

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

FISCAL YEAR 2027 MEALS ON WHEELS OF ALAMEDA COUNTY DONATIONS FOR THE BERKELEY MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Meals on Wheels of Alameda County (MOWAC) Agency's mission is to raise funds for Meals on Wheels programs in Alameda County, including Berkeley Meals on Wheels; and

WHEREAS, Alameda County distributes these funds on a quarterly and proportional basis to Meals on Wheels programs and special grant requests throughout Alameda County; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley Meals on Wheels provides approximately 50,000 nutritious meals to over 250 seniors each year; and

WHEREAS, MOWAC donations will assist in covering personnel costs or providing meals to homebound seniors; and

WHEREAS, the donations will be deposited into Fund 111 Fund-Raising Activities and will be appropriated as part of the First Amendment to the FY 2027 Annual Appropriations Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the revenue contract is exempt from the noticing requirements set forth in Government Code Section 3504.1.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or their designee is authorized to accept donations from the Meals on Wheels of Alameda County Agency, estimated at $185,000, including any additional amounts received, to support personnel and operating costs for providing meals to home-bound seniors through the City of Berkeley Meals on Wheels program.