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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 Department

Subject: Revenue Contract: 2027 Community Services Block Grant

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to:

1. Accept the 2027 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) contract to provide services for low-income people from January 1, 2027, to April 30, 2028; and,

2. Execute any resultant agreements and amendments including amendments that may decrease or increase the contract amount, add discretionary funding, change the contract term, or update contract terms.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Berkeley's CSBG allocation for Calendar Year 2027 is anticipated to be released in November or December 2026. The exact amount is not yet known. Contract revenues are deposited and expensed out of Fund 334.

The CSBG allocation amount is included in the City's anti-poverty Community Action Fund and supports oversight and management of anti-poverty funds within the Department of Health, Housing and Community Services (HHCS). CSBG funding is distributed annually; however, the contract period extends an additional five months to provide recipients with adequate time to expend funds, complete reports, and submit payment requests.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley receives CSBG to support anti-poverty programs because it is a Community Action Agency (CAA). CSBG funds are allocated from the United States Department of Health and Human Services and passed through the California Department of Community Services and Development to local CAAs. The City of Berkeley uses its CSBG entitlement to fund community service programs.

The Human Welfare and Community Action Commission (HWCAC) acts as the federally mandated tri-partite advisory board for CSBG funding. As such, it is responsible for

reviewing performance of funded programs and advising City Council on CSBG funding decisions. The Berkeley City Council is the decision-making body and is thus responsible for all final CSBG funding decisions.

At their September 16, 2026, meeting, the HWCAC voted to recommend approval of the anticipated 2027 CSBG funding as follows: Motion/Second/Carries (Lippman/Sol) Ayes – Gelsinger, Herzer-Baptiste, Huchting, Lippman, and Sol. Noes –None; Abstain – None; Absent –None.

BACKGROUND

CSBG supports the City of Berkeley's anti-poverty efforts. In 2023, the City was awarded $312,302. The award amounts for both 2024 and 2025 were $327,299. In 2026, the award amount increased to $331,214. CSBG funds supplement anti-poverty General Funds which are used for other critical community services, including disability and senior services, medical care, childcare, and additional homeless services. Funding is awarded to activities through the City's Community Agency RFP process.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with the subject of this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The CSBG is necessary to support the provision of services for residents living in poverty in Berkeley.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

No alternative actions were considered. Rejecting CSBG funding would reduce funding for services to low-income Berkeley residents, which would negatively impact low-income services in Berkeley.

CONTACT PERSON

Kat Larrowe, Community Health Specialist III, HHCS (510) 981-7555
Cynthia P. McClellan, Associate Management Analyst, HHCS, (510) 981-7689.

Attachments:
1: Resolution

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

REVENUE CONTRACT: 2027 COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG)

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley is a Community Action Agency and receives CSBG funds as the Berkeley Community Action Agency to support anti-poverty programs; and

WHEREAS, the Human Welfare and Community Action Commission (HWCAC) acts as an advisory tripartite Board to City Council providing public participation in the governing process; and

WHEREAS, at the September 16, 2026, HWCAC meeting, a motion was passed recommending that the City accept the 2027 Community Service Block Grant Funds; and

WHEREAS, this CSBG revenue contract is for the period of January 1, 2027, to April 30, 2028, with the option to extend the contract period and/or accept amendments that either increase the contract amount and/or update contract terms; and contract revenues are deposited and expensed out of Fund 334; and

WHEREAS, the funds have historically been used to support anti-poverty services and to support City of Berkeley oversight and management of anti-poverty programs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or designee is authorized to accept Community Service Block Grant funds and execute any resultant agreements and amendments including amendments that may decrease or increase the contract amount or add discretionary funding, or to change the contract term, or to update contract terms, to provide low-income services for Calendar Year 2027, with an extended contract period as amended by the California State Department of Community Services and Development to April 2028. A record signature copy of said agreement and any amendments shall be on file in the office of the City Clerk.