



Office of the City Manager

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CONSENT CALENDAR  
September 24, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Timothy Burroughs, Director, Planning and Development Department

Subject: Grant Application for Technical Assistance to Develop a Proposal for Challenge Grant for Housing Protection and Preservation

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to submit a grant application in the amount of \$7,000 to The San Francisco Foundation, in order to receive technical assistance from SEEDs Collaborative to help develop a competitive Partnership for the Bay's Future Challenge Grant proposal, and to accept grant funds and execute a resulting grant agreement.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The City of Berkeley would receive \$7,000 in technical assistance to develop a competitive application for Partnership for the Bay's Future Challenge Grant for Protection and Preservation of Affordable Housing. Funds would be deposited to 336-53-584-622-0000-000-000-434110- and expended for consultant services from 336-53-584-622-0000-000-441-612990-.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The San Francisco Foundation (TSFF) is providing technical assistance to jurisdictions interested in applying for Partnership for the Bay's Future Challenge Grant for Protection and Preservation of Affordable Housing ("Challenge Grant"). Challenge Grants will be awarded to no more than ten Bay Area jurisdictions. This grant program will invest approximately four million dollars in jurisdictions that commit to advancing and implementing affordable housing preservation and affordable housing protection policies that result in measurable benefits for tenants.

Technical assistance will allow Berkeley to partner with local experts and develop a competitive application. The Challenge Grant award -- and by association, TSFF's Technical Assistance Grant -- align with Berkeley's Strategic Plan Priority Project of advancing our goals to create affordable housing and housing support service for our most vulnerable community. If awarded the Technical Assistance Grant, the City of Berkeley would hire SEEDs Collaborative, a local consulting firm focused on community development policies and practices that help to correct racial disparities and promote community stability.

## BACKGROUND

The Challenge Grant, if awarded, would provide the City of Berkeley with support to develop and implement two important affordable housing protection and preservation policies: one focused on tenants' opportunities to purchase housing and the other focused on a preference for local residents when allocating of affordable housing in Berkeley. Both of these policies would preserve and expand the supply of affordable housing in Berkeley.

Berkeley City Council has directed staff to develop these policies as part of the City's Housing Action Plan (HAP), adopted in 2017:

*HAP Referral #2: Develop an ordinance modeled after Washington D.C.'s Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act (TOPA) that offers existing tenants in multi-unit properties of three units or more the first right of refusal when property owners place rental property on the market.*

*HAP Referral #7: Develop an ordinance to clarify existing preferences in allocating City affordable housing units to Berkeley residents living within 1/2 mile of any new housing project and tenants evicted under the Ellis Act.*

## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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

## RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Technical Assistance will increase Berkeley's capacity to develop a strong Challenge Grant application and will allow the City to partner with local experts.

## ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

## CONTACT PERSON

Alene Pearson, Principal Planner, Planning and Development, 510-981-7489

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

GRANT FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO FOUNDATION FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE  
ON THE PARTNERSHIP FOR THE BAY'S FUTURE CHALLENGE GRANT  
APPLICATION

WHEREAS, California is experiencing an affordable housing crisis; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has prioritized policy development that preserves and protects affordable housing in the 2017 Housing Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, The Partnership for the Bay's Future has released a request for proposals for a Challenge Grant focused on Protection and Preservation of Affordable Housing ("Challenge Grant"); and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Foundation has offered a Technical Assistance Grant to help cities develop competitive Challenge Grant proposals; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Department will benefit from the added capacity and guidance from local experts to develop its Challenge Grant application;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or her designee is authorized to submit a grant application in the amount of \$7,000 to The San Francisco Foundation for the Technical Assistance Grant, accept the grant, and execute any resulting grant agreement. A record signature copy of said agreements and any amendments to be on file the office of the City Clerk.

