



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
September 13, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
 From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager  
 Submitted by: Lisa Warhuus, Director, Health, Housing and Community Services  
 Subject: Contract: Tiana Sanchez International LLC for HHCS Equity Consultant

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract and any amendments with Tiana Sanchez International, LLC. (Contractor) to provide equity consulting services for the Department of Health, Housing and Community Services (HHCS) from October 1, 2021 to May 30, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$120,000.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The term of this contract is from October 1, 2022 to May 30, 2023 in the amount of \$120,000. Funding for the HHCS Equity Consulting project is available in the FY23 budget through a California Department of Public Health grant, the California Equitable Recovery Initiative, (CERI) ERMA Code 336-51-501-501-2075-000-451-612990.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The department's equity work is a Strategic Plan Priority Project, advancing our goal to champion and demonstrate social and racial equity. The City of Berkeley issued an RFP to obtain consulting services to develop an equity framework to be adopted by HHCS, which will be the foundation for the creation of a Strategic Plan for Health Equity. The project has three deliverables: 1) determine how equity is approached and defined throughout the department; 2) recommend or develop an equity framework that will be adopted across the department; and 3) using this equity framework, facilitate development of a departmental strategic plan that is anchored in the adopted equity framework.

The City conducted RFP Specification No. 22-11529-C with proposals due no later than July 6, 2022. The City received two proposals. The selection committee was comprised of the HHCS Department Director, Deputy Director, and a program manager. An interview was conducted with the most qualified organization.

BACKGROUND

The City of Berkeley is a thriving community with considerable wealth, high levels of education attainment, and a rich culture that all contribute to a healthy community. However, Berkeley is not a city where all people are living long and healthy lives and

achieving the highest possible level of health. In Berkeley, African American/Black and other people of color are more likely to die prematurely and experience a wide variety of adverse health conditions throughout their lives.

As reported in the 2018 City of Berkeley Health Status Report, higher incidence of disease is linked to neighborhoods that have been historically under-resourced and overexposed to unhealthy conditions. These neighborhoods have more people living in poverty and more people of color than surrounding neighborhoods. Like other jurisdictions, these historic and ongoing health inequities have been exacerbated by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Communities of color, specifically African American/Black and Hispanic/Latinx residents, have a higher COVID-19 positivity rate, hospitalizations, and deaths compared to White residents.

Since 2018, extensive work has been done by HHCS to analyze and identify solutions to overcome the underlying issues that perpetuate these health inequities. HHCS programs serve individuals who are most impacted in Berkeley and continue to make progress toward solving health inequities that have existed and been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to these community programs, the divisions of HHCS have been conducting their own internal equity work. Solving these inequities involves a conscious effort to look at Department-wide systems and structures to define, codify, and systematize this work into a HHCS Strategic Plan for Health Equity. This Plan will include an adopted equity framework to guide Department-wide and Division-specific projects and systems, which will allow HHCS to achieve its overarching goal to create a City where all community members can achieve their highest level of health.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with the action requested in this report.

#### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The City conducted a competitive bid process and Tiana Sanchez International, LLC successfully met the bid requirements and ranked highest among all bidders given their applicable experience working on similar projects with other jurisdictions in California.

#### ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

#### CONTACT PERSON

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

CONTRACT: TIANA SANCHEZ INTERNATIONAL LLC FOR HEALTH HOUSING AND  
COMMUNITY SERVICES EQUITY CONSULTING

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has issued an RFP to obtain consulting services for HHCS to create or recommend an equity framework which will then be used as the foundation to create a Strategic Plan for Health Equity; and

WHEREAS, the City conducted RFP Specification No. 22-11529-C with proposals due no later than July 6, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the City received two proposals in response to this RFP; and

WHEREAS, one finalist was invited to meet with the selection committee for a more in-depth review of their proposal and describe their past consulting work with other jurisdictions in California, resulting in the selection of Tiana Sanchez International LLC as the best qualified vendor.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to execute a contract and any amendments with Tiana Sanchez International LLC to provide consulting services to produce the deliverables to support the recommendation or creation of an equity framework for HHCS to support the development of a Strategic Plan for Health Equity from October 1, 2022 to May 30, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$120,000.

