



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
October 29, 2024

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: Contract No. 32400176 Amendment: Health Officer Coverage – Dr. Gail Newel

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to amend Contract No. 32400176 with Dr. Gail Newel to increase by \$50,000 for a total not to exceed amount (NTE) of \$100,000.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The City will have a gap in Health Officer coverage when the Health Officer is out of the office and unavailable. Costs for Health Officer coverage will be paid for by General Funds (Fund 011) salary savings in the FY25 Adopted Budget. The grant (fund 302) that supported this contract last year was reduced for all jurisdictions statewide due to budget cuts. Payment will be \$50 per hour/\$1,200 per day. Total costs are not to exceed \$100,000.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley receives funding from the California Department of Public Health through the Future of Public Health grant. The funding requires each local health jurisdiction to have Health Officer on-call coverage at all times. This contract enables coverage when the City Health Officer is out of the office.

BACKGROUND

Most public health jurisdictions have on-call Health Officer coverage to address urgent communicable diseases and other public health issues. Additionally, this coverage is required by the Future of Public Health grant. Dr. Newel is an experienced Health Officer who served in Santa Cruz and San Benito counties. The City Council is asked to approve continued Health Officer coverage, as Council also approves the appointment of the permanent Health Officer.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no environmental sustainability and climate impacts associated directly with the content of this summary report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Health Officer coverage is required by the Future of Public Health grant, and may be needed if urgent public health issues arise.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The City could continue to have periodic gaps in Health Officer coverage when the Health Officer is unavailable.

CONTACT PERSON

Alexandra Deitch, Sr. HSPS, HHCS, 510-981-5379

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

CONTRACT No. 32400176 AMENDMENT: DR. GAIL NEWEL FOR HEALTH OFFICER SERVICES DURING PERIODS WHEN THE CITY HEALTH OFFICER IS OUT OF OFFICE

WHEREAS, most public health jurisdictions have on-call Health Officer coverage to address urgent communicable disease and other public health issues; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley receives funding from the California Department of Public Health through the Future of Public Health grant, which requires each local health jurisdiction to have Health Officer coverage at all times; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gail Newel is an experienced Health Officer who has served in Santa Cruz and San Benito counties, and is willing to provide coverage for the City of Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, on May 1, 2024, the City of Berkeley entered into contract with Dr. Newel (Contract 32400176) to provide Health Officer coverage when the Health Officer is out of the office to ensure 24/7 Health Officer coverage; and

WHEREAS, an additional \$50,000 to increase the existing contract amount will extend Health Officer coverage for the City of Berkeley when the Health Officer is out of the office and unavailable.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or his designee is authorized to amend Contract No. 32400176 and any amendments with Dr. Gail Newel from May 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 utilizing General Funds.

