



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
November 19, 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. 32300144 Amendment: Resource Development Associates for Specialized Care Unit (SCU) Evaluation

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to amend Contract No. 32300144 with Resource Development Associates (RDA) to add \$40,000 for a not-to-exceed total contract amount of \$290,000.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

This amendment will add \$40,000 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$290,000. Funding for the RDA contract for the Specialized Care Unit (SCU) evaluation will be made available in the FY2025 budget in One-Time Grant (Fund 336) and General Fund 011 via the Annual Appropriations Ordinance (AAO) process.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Amending the RDA contract for the SCU evaluation is a Strategic Plan Priority Project, advancing our goal to champion and demonstrate social and racial equity. The additional funds will allow RDA to expand their scope of the pre-existing retrospective SCU evaluation to include broader community outreach and engagement to provide feedback on the SCU pilot program. The current retrospective evaluation includes data collection and focus groups. This expanded scope will provide opportunity for RDA to incorporate direct community feedback into the retrospective program evaluation for the SCU, which is a key component to measure the success of the SCU program in Berkeley.

BACKGROUND

In Fall 2020, as a part of the broader initiative to Reimagine Public Safety, Resource Development Associates (RDA) was selected through a competitive bid process to provide extensive research, community engagement, and recommendations to design a Specialized Care Unit that would fit community needs of Berkeley. This project created the framework for the Specialized Care Unit and provided critical background for a broader crisis needs assessment. This interview and needs assessment process involved working across multiple Berkeley stakeholder groups with service utilizers, and

in-depth research regarding crisis response systems to best inform behavioral crisis response model. At the end of the project, RDA published three reports (Crisis Response Model, Mental Health Crisis Response Services, and Stakeholder Perspectives Report) to inform the design of the Specialized Care Unit, as well as also analyze the crisis response landscape in Berkeley.

These consolidated reports provide the backbone to the rigorous retrospective evaluation for the SCU program in Berkeley. The retrospective evaluation will analyze data from September 2023 through November 2024, and also include key informant interviews and focus groups with key SCU stakeholders such as City of Berkeley staff, SCU Steering Committee members, and Bonita House program management and staff.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

No environmental sustainability and climate impacts directly associated to this recommendation have been identified.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The added community engagement aligns with the original intent of the SCU program to be a community-driven process. Adding this type of outreach will broaden the feedback and allow RDA to better assess the success of the SCU pilot program in Berkeley.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The City could choose to go through another competitive bidding process to identify a separate vendor to perform this data analysis. However, RDA's existing level of knowledge and alignment with their current scope of work makes it impossible for another firm to match, so this approach is not recommended.

CONTACT PERSON

Scott Gilman, Director, HHCS, 510-981-5404

Attachment:
Resolution

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

CONTRACT NO. 32300144 AMENDMENT: RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
ASSOCIATES FOR SPECIALIZED CARE UNIT PROGRAM EVALUATION

WHEREAS, Contract #32300144 was awarded to Resource Development Associates (RDA) to design and implement an evaluation for program effectiveness of the Specialized Care Unit (SCU); and

WHEREAS, through Contract #32300144 RDA has been creating an evaluation plan for the SCU in collaboration with the City and key stakeholders and conducting initial data evaluation to evaluate program effectiveness in Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, \$40,000 was allocated to add community engagement and feedback to the retrospective evaluation to enhance the analysis of SCU program effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, RDA is the most qualified consultant to receive the additional funding to add this scope to their evaluation design.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or his designee is authorized to amend the SCU evaluation Contract No. 32300144 with RDA by adding \$40,000 for a not-to-exceed amount of \$290,000. Funding will be made available in the FY2025 budget in the One-Time Grant Fund (Fund 336) and General Fund 011 via the Annual Appropriations Ordinance process.

