



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 & Community Services
Subject: Revenue Contract: 2025 Community Services Block Grant

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to accept the 2025 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) to provide services for low-income people for the period January 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Berkeley's CSBG contract for the period of January 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026 (Fund 334-51-504-530-0000-000-000-431110334) is anticipated to be released in November 2024, the exact amount is not yet known. 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 Health, Housing and Community Services Department. The CSBG program operates on the calendar year, therefore this amount represents one-half of the City's FY 2025 CSBG allocation and one-half of the City's FY 2026 CSBG allocation. The additional appropriation will be made as part of the Second Amendment to the FY 2025 Annual Appropriations Ordinance.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley is a Community Action Agency (CAA) and therefore receives CSBG to support anti-poverty programs from the State of California. CSBG funds are part of the federal Department of Health and Human Services budget passed through the State to local CAAs. Historically, the City of Berkeley has awarded CSBG funds to community service programs.

The Human Welfare and Community Action Commission (HWCAC) acts as the tri-partite advisory Board for CSBG funding. As such, it is responsible for reviewing performance of funded programs, reviewing compliance with the implementation of the community action program, and advising Council on CSBG funding decisions. The Berkeley City Council is responsible for all final CSBG funding decisions.

At its September 18, 2024 meeting, the HWCAC passed a motion to recommend that the City accept the CSBG Funds and contract for 2025 (M/S/C: Lara Cruz/Sol. Ayes –

Behm-Steinberg, Bohn, Gaona, Huchting, Lara Cruz, Lippman, Sol. Noes – None;
Abstain – None; Absent – None.

Adopting this resolution now, will allow staff to execute the contract in a timely manner as requested by the State of California.

BACKGROUND

CSBG supports the City of Berkeley's anti-poverty efforts at a minimum funded level. In 2021, the award was \$275,106, and in 2022 the award slightly decreased to \$274,202. In 2023 the award increased to \$312,302, and in 2024 decreased to \$299,495. CSBG funds complement anti-poverty General Funds which are used for other critical community services, including disability and senior services, medical care, childcare, and additional homeless services.

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

Rejecting CSBG funding would reduce funding for services to low-income Berkeley residents. This would negatively impact low-income services in Berkeley.

CONTACT PERSON

Mary-Claire Katz, Associate Management Analyst, HHCS, (510) 981-5414.

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

REVENUE CONTRACT: 2025 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 tri-partite Board to the Council providing public participation in the governing process; and

WHEREAS, at the September 18, 2024 HWCAC meeting a motion was passed recommending that the City accept the 2025 CSBG funds; and

WHEREAS, this CSBG revenue contract is for the period of January 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026, with the option to extend the contract period and/or accept amendments that either increase the contract amount and/or update contract terms (budget code 334-51-504-530-0000-000-000-431110); 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 (budget code 334-51-504-530-0000-000-444-Various to 334-51-504-535-0000-000-444-Various).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or his designee is authorized to accept the 2025 Community Services 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 the time period January 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026, with the option to extend the contract period as amended by the California State Department of Community Services and Development. A record signature copy of said agreement and any amendments shall be on file in the office of the City Clerk.