

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: April 7, 2008

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF THE RENEWAL OF GRANT FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES; AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HERITAGE CLINIC, TO OPERATE THE ELDER ABUSE ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH PROGRAM.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize the City Manager to enter into the contract this year and in subsequent years in an amount not to exceed the amount of grant funds received by the City from the State of California Office of Emergency Services without competitive bidding pursuant to City Charter 1002(F), contracts for professional or unique services, to operate the Elder Abuse Advocacy and Outreach Program. The remaining balance will offset the Police Department's administrative costs, and;
2. Grant the proposed contract an exemption from the competitive selection process of the Competitive Bidding and Purchasing Ordinance, pursuant to Section 4.08.049(B), contracts for which the City's best interests are served.

BACKGROUND

Since November of 1999 the City, pursuant to an Office of Criminal Justice Planning grant, has had an operating agreement with the Heritage Clinic (formerly the Center for Aging Resources) to provide services to Pasadena senior citizens who are victims or potential victims of crime. Application for this current grant was offered in September 2007, which is when the last grant ended. The State ultimately approved our application in March 2008 and covers a period retroactive from October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008.

As a result of their previous arrangement with the Police Department and in anticipation that funding would ultimately be approved for this non-competitive grant, the Heritage Clinic continued to operate in good faith based upon the previous terms of the grant and contractual obligation to the City. It should be noted, however, that the Heritage Clinic was advised that future grant funding is not guaranteed, and should they choose to provide services beyond the period of the current grant, the City will not be responsible for reimbursement should grant funding discontinue.

The service that Heritage Clinic provides includes, but is not limited to: (1) review of all police reports involving crimes against seniors; (2) review of all referral cases to the Police Department from the Los Angeles County Office of Adult Protective Services; (3) coordination of individual cases by victim specialists; (4) critical incident stress debriefing for victims and family members; (5) coordination of monthly Elder Abuse Task Force meetings; and (6) ongoing outreach to "at risk" elders as a crime prevention measure.

During FY 2007-2008, Heritage Clinic's Elder Abuse Advocacy and Outreach Program has processed approximately 130 cases involving senior citizens that were referred by the Police Department. The Heritage Clinic provided the above-mentioned services as an enhancement to the Police Department's investigative and prosecutorial efforts.

The Police Department has been assured by the Office of Emergency Services that retroactive reimbursement for services will be provided as long as program guidelines have been met. At this time, the Office of Emergency Services anticipates that this program will be extended as it has in the past and the Police Department will seek continued involvement. The Office of Emergency Services has also worked on streamlining their grant award process and anticipates a more timely process in future years.

The City could undertake a competitive selection process to identify other potential service providers. However, there are several reasons why it is in the City's best interests to continue to utilize the services of the Heritage Clinic. Specifically, the clinic makes an in-kind contribution, as required by the terms of the grant, by providing local office and meeting locations as well as local psychological counseling to senior victims and potential victims. Additionally, they also provide professional and clerical staff to oversee the program and maintain the program records. This public/private partnership serves to bridge the gap in services necessary for senior victims of crime.

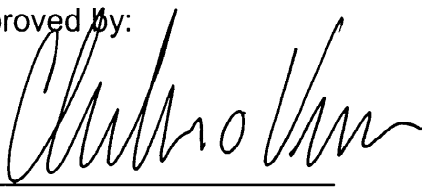
FISCAL IMPACT

Sufficient funds are included in the Police Department's FY 2008 Operating Budget and the Pasadena Police Department will act as custodian for the grant monies. The \$80,540 cost of the contract will be totally reimbursed by the Elder Abuse Advocacy and Outreach and Program grant. In addition, the City will receive \$9,460 to cover its administrative costs.

Respectfully Submitted,

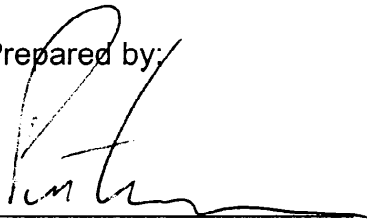

BERNARD K. MELEKIAN
City Manager

Approved by:



Christopher O. Vicino
Chief of Police

Prepared by:



Peter S. Hettema, Sergeant
Criminal Investigations Division