

# Agenda Report

May 11, 2015

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**THROUGH:** Finance Committee

**FROM:** Public Health Department

**SUBJECT: RECOGNIZE AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$594,473 TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT FISCAL YEAR 2015 OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMHSA) PROGRAM**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) as it will not have a potentially significant environmental effect and, therefore, falls under the "general rule" exemption; and
2. Recognize and appropriate \$594,473 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to the Public Health Department's Fiscal Year 2015 Operating Budget.

## **BACKGROUND:**

On September 30, 2014, the City of Pasadena Public Health Department (PPHD) was awarded a grant in the amount of \$594,473 by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Working through local jurisdictions the goals of the SAMHSA grant are to: 1) Prevent and treat mild to moderate mental health conditions, 2) Improve early awareness of mental health issues, 3) Create more accessible entry points where other services are

deployed, and 4) Reduce the social stigma associated mental health issues. This effort is part of the growing recognition of the need to address mental health issues which all too often exhibits itself in the form of community violence and other adverse outcomes such as failures to thrive, trouble in school and homelessness. Moreover, while mental health services are part of the essential health benefits provided for under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, there is recognition on the part of the Federal Government that gaps in service remain and the SAMHSA grant is intended to help fill that unmet need.

Implementation of the grant will be done through a coordinated effort between the Public Health Department, which will provide the majority of the staffing and the Human Services and Recreation Department, which will also contribute staff resources as well as provide access locations in existing community centers, thus fulfilling the required 25% local match requirements, as further detailed in the Fiscal Impact.

The services to be provided by the City pursuant to the grant requirements include short-term mental health counseling for up to 50 persons at a time, referral of short-term clients to existing community partners providing comprehensive services, public education, potential policy development and program evaluation. The project will be working closely with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, Pasadena Unified School District, Young and Healthy, and other key community partners.

**COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

The proposed action supports the City Council's Strategic Plan Goal to Ensure Public Safety by facilitating the creation and expansion of a coordinated system of care for behavioral health services for children, youth, and families.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

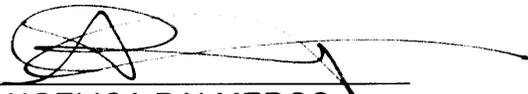
The SAMSA grant will provide a total of \$594,473 in year one. In years two and three, provided Federal funds are made available, a like amount will be provided which is sufficient to cover the total annual salary costs to be charged against the grant, \$443,634 as well as provide funding for related services and supplies and other program costs. The grant requires a 25% local match which will be met through existing appropriations. The total number of Full Time Equivalents to be assigned to the grant is 5.0 FTEs, all of which are expected to be drawn from the existing workforce.

In year four, provided Federal funds are available, the annual grant amount will be reduced to \$242,074. Prior to this time a determination will be made as to whether the program is capable of being sustainable on an ongoing basis and without the need for additional City support. Moreover, there is no commitment on the part of the City to continue to provide these services.

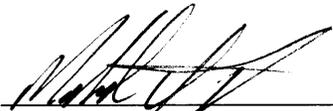
Respectfully submitted,

  
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