



Agenda Report

May 10, 2021

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Housing Department

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENTS WITH FOOD PANTRY PROGRAMS; COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)-CV FUNDS

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council take the following actions:

- 1) Find that the recommended action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines per Section 15061 (b) (3), the "common sense" provision that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and
- 2) Approve subrecipient agreements in the total amount of \$485,000, funded with federal CDBG-CV grant dollars, with five food pantry program operators to address households experiencing food insecurity caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

BACKGROUND:

On November 23, 2020, City Council approved a Substantial Amendment to the 2020-21 Annual Action Plan allocating \$1.1 million dollars in CDBG-CV Round 3 funds for food pantry services. The funding was made available by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), and are restricted to activities that prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19.

Over 19 Pasadena food banks and pantries were contacted by City staff to participate in a program to address food insecurity in Pasadena (the "Pasadena Food Pantry Program"). Ten organizations submitted an agency capacity review application and a proposed program budget. City staff reviewed applications for cost and program eligibility. Four agencies dropped out, and one was deemed ineligible. The five (5) remaining organizations were selected through an exempt, non-competitive process, as

approved by Council on November 23, 2020. Below is a table of the food banks and pantries recommended for subrecipient funding awards.

Agency Name	Program Budget
National Day Laborer Organization Network - Mano a Mano	\$125,000
First AME Church	\$125,000
First United Methodist Church	\$25,000
Foothill Unity Center	\$175,000
Pasadena Senior Center	\$35,000

These agencies will operate for a term of one year under the Pasadena Food Pantry Program administered by the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The action proposed herein is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b)(3), the "common sense" provision of CEQA which applies to projects which may have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. The approval of the subject subrecipient agreements to fund food programs will not have a significant effect on the environment and, hence, is not subject to CEQA.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

This proposed action supports the City Council Strategic Planning Three-Year Goals in the areas of improving, maintaining, and enhancing public facilities and infrastructure; improving mobility and accessibility throughout the City of Pasadena; and supporting and promoting the quality of life and the local economy.

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FISCAL IMPACT:

Approval of this recommended action has no fiscal impact because funds were previously allocated by Council. Approval of the subrecipient agreements will result in a total allocation of \$485,000 in CDBG-CV3 entitlement funds to the aforementioned five agencies to address the food insecurity impacts of COVID-19.

Respectfully submitted,



Jim Wong (May 4, 2021 16:29 PDT)

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Approved by:



STEVE MERMELL

City Manager