

# Agenda Report

July 21, 2025

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**THROUGH:** Public Safety Committee (July 16, 2025)

**FROM:** Public Health Department

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH LA CARE TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CALIFORNIA ADVANCING AND INNOVATING MEDI-CAL (CAL-AIM) FOR AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$991,128 FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed action is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 21065 of CEQA and Sections 15060(c)(2), 15060(c)(3), and 15378 of the State CEQA Guidelines and, as such, no environmental document pursuant to CEQA is required; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter an agreement with L.A. Care to accept and administer funds on behalf of the City of Pasadena to implement maternal health improvement activities for the population eligible for Medi-Cal.

## **BACKGROUND:**

L.A. Care Health Plan is the nation's largest publicly operated health plan serving more than 2.5 million members and serves as the primary Managed Care Plan (MCP) for Medi-Cal in Los Angeles County. In January 2022, the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) launched the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (Cal-AIM). Cal-AIM is a comprehensive, multi-year initiative to transform and strengthen Medi-Cal, California's Medicaid program. CalAIM aims to create a more coordinated, person-centered, and equitable healthcare system by improving health outcomes and quality of life for Medi-Cal enrollees.

As a component of Cal-AIM, DHCS implemented the Population Health Management (PHM) initiative to improve the health of Medi-Cal beneficiaries by proactively identifying

and addressing their needs, both clinical and social. PHM shifts the focus from reactive, crisis-driven care to a proactive, preventative approach, ensuring members receive timely and appropriate support. The initiative focuses on assessing individual health risks, providing care management, and connecting members with resources and services, ultimately leading to better health outcomes and reduced disparities.

In alignment with PHM requirements, L.A. Care is partnering with the Pasadena Public Health Department by providing \$991,128 over three years to implement community health assessment and community health improvement plan strategies. Of the total funding, \$330,376 was appropriated in the FY26 Adopted Operating Budget on June 16, 2025. The partnership will focus on closing maternity care disparity for Black and Native American persons by:

- Supporting group prenatal care implementation at two local clinics;
- Launching Centering Pregnancy, an evidenced-based curriculum for moms, babies, and providers; and
- Supporting personnel and technical infrastructure for collecting and reporting community health data.

#### **COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

The proposed action is consistent with the City Council's strategic planning goal to support and promote the quality of life and local economy. The agreement award reflects a city partnership between the Public Health Department and L.A. Care to implement community health improvement strategies including improving health outcomes for expecting mothers within the Black and Native American communities.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

The proposed execution of grant documents is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CEQA excludes, from environmental review, actions that are not "projects" as defined by CEQA Guidelines Section 21065 and within the meaning of Section 15378(b). Sections 21065 and 15378(b) define a project as an action which may cause either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. Section 15378 excludes from the definition of "project" government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment. Such is the case with the proposed agreement with L.A. Care to accept and administer funds on behalf of the City of Pasadena to implement maternal health improvement activities for the population eligible for Medi-Cal.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

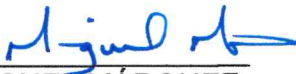
There is no anticipated impact to the Health Fund (Fund 203). Expenses and anticipated revenue were included in the FY 2026 Adopted Operating Budget. Remaining grant funding will be included in the annual budget submission in future fiscal years.

Respectfully submitted,



JUDITH DUNAWAY, MPH, RD  
Acting Director of Public Health

Approved by:



MIGUEL MÁRQUEZ  
City Manager