

# Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 01/14/20

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 20-0015

LOG NAME: 19NSD HOUSING PROGRAMS CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION

## SUBJECT

Authorize Execution of Sub-Grant Agreements with Rehabilitation, Education and Advocacy for Persons with Handicaps, dba REACH, Inc. and Fort Worth Area Habitat for Humanity, Inc. dba Trinity Habitat for Humanity in a Combined Amount up to \$955,000.00 for the City's Housing and Urban Development Grant Funded Housing Programs (ALL COUNCIL DISTRICTS)

## RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute sub-grant agreements with Rehabilitation, Education and Advocacy for Persons with Handicaps, dba REACH, Inc. and Fort Worth Area Habitat for Humanity, Inc. dba Trinity Habitat for Humanity in a Combined Amount up to \$955,000.00 for City's HUD Grant Funded Housing Programs; and
2. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to extend sub-grant agreements for up to one year if an agency or department requests an extension and such extension is necessary for completion of the program, or to amend contracts if necessary to achieve program goals, provided any amendment is within the scope of the program and complies with City policies and all applicable laws and regulations governing the use of federal grant funds.

## DISCUSSION:

On August 6, 2019, the City Council approved M&C 19-0016 approving the City's 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan for use of grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The purpose of this M&C is to authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute contracts with REACH Fort Worth and Fort Worth Area Habitat for Humanity, Inc. dba Trinity Habitat for Humanity ("Trinity Habitat for Humanity"), two non-profit housing agencies that operate programs throughout the City of Fort Worth (City), for the implementation of CDBG-funded Housing Programs for low income residents.

The 2019-2020 Action Plan approved \$455,000.00 in CDBG funding for the Cowtown Brush-Up program operated by Trinity Habitat for Humanity, \$400,000.00 in CDBG funding for Trinity Habitat's Preserve A Home Program, and \$100,000.00 in CDBG funding for REACH Fort Worth's Project Ramp Program as sub-grants of the City's CDBG award from HUD in order to support the completion of the goals and objectives set forth in the City's 2019-2020 Action Plan.

Cowtown Brush-Up is a community outreach volunteer program that provides a fresh coat of paint for the homes of low income homeowners. The Preserve-A-Home Program provides income-eligible homeowners with exterior repairs such as siding, paint, trim, and roofs. The REACH Project Ramp Program builds ramps, installs grab bars, and/or installs railings at the homes of low-income people with mobility impairments.

The City's Cowtown Brushup Program, Trinity Habitat for Humanity's Preserve A Home Program and REACH Fort Worth's Ramp program were not included in Table 1 of M&C 19-0016, though all of these programs were explicitly detailed and included in the approved Action Plan submission to HUD, as well as in the Power Point breakdown provided as an attachment to the original M&C. Each of these programs operates on a reimbursement basis, with only approved eligible-expenses reimbursed per the rules and authorities outlined within these recommended contracts.

For the reasons outlined above, staff recommends the authorization of sub-grantee agreements with REACH Fort Worth and Trinity Habitat for Humanity the amounts and term length listed below for the specific programs listed.

TABLE 1: CDBG AGENCIES			
AGENCY	PROGRAM	AMOUNT	TERM
Rehabilitation, Education and Advocacy for Persons with Handicaps, dba REACH, Inc.	Project Ramp	\$100,000.00	10/01/2019 - 09/30/2020

Trinity Habitat for Humanity	Cowtown Brushup Program	\$455,000.00	01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020
Trinity Habitat for Humanity	Preserve A Home Program	\$400,000.00	18 Months from Effective Date of Contract
<b>Total CDBG Contracts</b>		<b>\$955,000.00</b>	

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**FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:**

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations, funds will be available in the current operating budget, as appropriated, of the Grants Operating Federal Fund. These are reimbursement grants. The Neighborhood Services Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds prior to an expenditure being made.

**Submitted for City Manager's Office by:** Fernando Costa 6122

**Originating Business Unit Head:** Sonia Singleton 5774

**Additional Information Contact:** Eric Vodicka 7583