

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 08/27/19

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 19-0070

LOG NAME: 022019 PARTNERSHIP FUNDS

SUBJECT

Ratify Application for and Authorize Acceptance of a Cooperative Agreement with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for Partnership Funds in the Amount Up to \$12,500 for the Development and Implementation of a Disability Rights Conference, Authorize Execution of Related Agreement, and Adopt Appropriation Ordinance (ALL COUNCIL DISTRICTS)

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that City Council:

1. Ratify the application for and authorize the acceptance of the cooperative agreement with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for Partnership Funds in the amount up to \$12,500 for the development and implementation of a Disability Rights Conference;
2. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Federal Fund in the amount up to \$12,500 upon receipt of the award.

DISCUSSION:

On an intermittent basis the United States Departments of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will seek proposals for use of Fair Housing Partnership Funds, if available, under the authority set forth at 24 C.F.R. § 115.304(d). The purpose of Partnership Funds is “for an agency participating in the FHAP to utilize the services of individuals and/or public, private, for-profit, or not-for-profit organizations that have expertise needed to effectively carry out the provisions of the agency’s fair housing law.”

In April 2019, HUD notified all Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) agencies that it would be accepting applications for 2019 Partnership Funds, with a deadline for submittal of May 3, 2019. The Fort Worth Human Relations Commission (FWHRC) applied for this award proposing to develop and implement a one-day Disability Rights Conference for those living with disabilities, their caregivers/advocates and service providers. The conference, which would be held sometime in October 2019, would provide timely and relevant information about topics and issues impacting the disability community. Program content would have several topics addressing Fair Housing, and be facilitated/taught by subject matter experts with regional and/or national credentials.

Proposed Fair Housing workshops include:

- Know Your Housing Rights: Disabilities and Fair Housing
- Design and Construction: What’s a Reasonable Modification?
- How to ask for a Reasonable Accommodation

Additional conference topics could include:

- What can I expect from City Services, Programs and Places of Public Accommodation?
- Transportation
- Continuing Education
- Health/Healthcare
- Employment

In June 2019, the FWHRC received notice from HUD that our proposal for a Disability Rights Conference had been selected for funding, in the amount of \$12,500, with an effective date for the Agreement starting June 14, 2019.

Indirect costs are not submitted on the grant due to no payroll expenditures in the grant award. The grant award is to pay for venue costs, accessibility services, reigstrant supplies, and marketing.

A Form 1295 is not required for this contract because: This contract will be with a governmental entity, state agency or public institution of higher education: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

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FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations, receipt of the grant and adoption of the attached

appropriation ordinance, funds for operation will be available in the current operating budget, as appropriated, of the Grants Operating Fund. The City Manager's Office - Human Relations Unit shall be responsible for identifying funding sources to cover expenses incurred in the event the grant funds are not received. This is an advance grant.

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