



SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA MATERIAL

Meeting Date: June 1, 2021

Item Number: 15

Item Description: Fiscal Year 2022 Proposed Budget Public Hearing #2

Submitted by: Councilmember Ben Bartlett

The item has been amended to include funding for a program design consultant for the Health Equity & Innovation District. Additional details are included to provide context for other potential resources including the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”), State, and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.



To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmembers Ben Bartlett (author), Terry Taplin, Kate Harrison, and Mayor Jesse Arreguin (co-sponsors)
Subject: Budget Referral: Funding for Health Equity & Innovation District Consultant

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget Process an allocation of \$250,000 to Fund a Consultant to design a pilot Health Equity & Innovation District that was unanimously recommended by the Council on March 27, 2021

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

\$250,000 in funding

BACKGROUND

On March 27, 2018, City passed legislation requesting the establishment of a Health Equity & Innovation District¹ (HID)². More than three years later, the City has a unique opportunity to fund the Health Equity & Innovation District by allocating \$250,000 to hire a consultant to design a pilot program. This program is eligible for federal funding, secured by the City of Berkeley under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The status quo is disproportionately failing to meet the healthcare needs of many residents. As a reference, the 2018 Health Status report³ found marked racial disparities, and showed areas in South and West Berkeley had worse health outcomes. The report found that African Americans and people living in South and West Berkeley suffered from severe illnesses at much higher rates than their White, North Berkeley counterparts. This includes hospitalizations due to serious diseases, including asthma⁴, hypertension⁵, and diabetes⁶, which significantly increase the likelihood of severe COVID-19 illness⁷.

Funding a consultant to design and run a Health Innovation and Equity District pilot program allows the City the opportunity to work towards remedying severe health inequities.

¹ Annotated Agenda Berkeley City Council Meeting Tuesday, March 27, 2018, https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WMA6xOgW_qgqsU5_c32NZKteh40T-TDS/view?usp=sharing

² City of Berkeley, Health Equity & Innovation District Council Item, March 27, 2018 <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/3/folders/1r6rsi-9oH0rnMtYZNXVf-2NR-UVxd6>

³ City of Berkeley, 2018 Health Status Report, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VB0RfqiY4Et1o988aDkHOvg9LjklvX5l/view?usp=sharing>

⁴ City of Berkeley, 2018 Health Status Report, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VB0RfqiY4Et1o988aDkHOvg9LjklvX5l/view?usp=sharing> (Page 42&43)

⁵ City of Berkeley, 2018 Health Status Report, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VB0RfqiY4Et1o988aDkHOvg9LjklvX5l/view?usp=sharing> (Page 68)

⁶ City of Berkeley, 2018 Health Status Report, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VB0RfqiY4Et1o988aDkHOvg9LjklvX5l/view?usp=sharing> (Page 65)

⁷ Center for Disease Control and Prevention, People with Certain Medical Conditions, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>



The American Rescue Plan Act provides funding for these much-needed services. According to the City Manager’s analysis of the fiscal impacts of the ARPA⁸ and Interim Treasury Rules for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds⁹, resources provided to the City under ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds can be used for the following purposes:

- medical care, testing, and contact tracing
- support for isolation or quarantine
- enhancement of public health data systems
- access to medical or public health services and enforcement of public health orders

as well as services that provide

- mental health treatment
- crisis intervention
- substance misuse treatment
- overdose prevention
- promote access to physical or behavioral care / preventative medicine
- infectious disease prevention

In addition, the City Manager’s analysis of guidelines provided to the City under ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds requires Berkeley to acknowledge the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 in low-income and other communities. Likewise, her analysis of Treasury resources for Qualified Census Tracts (South and West Berkeley), indicate that funds allocated to the City could be used for¹⁰:

- Funding public benefits navigators to assist community members with navigating and applying for available Federal, State, and local public benefits or services¹¹¹²;
- Evidence-based community violence intervention programs to prevent violence and mitigate the increase in violence during the pandemic¹³¹⁴

The following policy and service goals proposed in the HID item¹⁵ can address the elements raised in the City Manager’s memo outlining resources provided to the City under ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds:

⁸City of Berkeley, City Manager, 05/16/2021, American Rescue Plan Act – State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Overview and Preliminary FY 2022 Allocations Based on Treasury Department Interim Final Guidelines, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GVrFicz8t0vqrFUo1DQLt4KrowBWYAw/view?usp=sharing>

⁹ Department of Treasury, 31 CFR Part 35, RIN 1505-AC77, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Z9BUrJHyw0lQrR_0fil5A2LbSp83n3N/view

¹⁰ City of Berkeley, City Manager, 05/16/2021, American Rescue Plan Act – State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Overview and Preliminary FY 2022 Allocations Based on Treasury Department Interim Final Guidelines, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GVrFicz8t0vqrFUo1DQLt4KrowBWYAw/view?usp=sharing> (page 2)

¹¹ City of Berkeley, City Manager, 05/16/2021, American Rescue Plan Act – State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Overview and Preliminary FY 2022 Allocations Based on Treasury Department Interim Final Guidelines, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GVrFicz8t0vqrFUo1DQLt4KrowBWYAw/view?usp=sharing> (page 3)

¹² Department of Treasury, 31 CFR Part 35, RIN 1505-AC77, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Z9BUrJHyw0lQrR_0fil5A2LbSp83n3N/view (page 20)

¹³ City of Berkeley, City Manager, 05/16/2021, American Rescue Plan Act – State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Overview and Preliminary FY 2022 Allocations Based on Treasury Department Interim Final Guidelines, <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GVrFicz8t0vqrFUo1DQLt4KrowBWYAw/view?usp=sharing> (page 3)

¹⁴ Department of Treasury, 31 CFR Part 35, RIN 1505-AC77, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Z9BUrJHyw0lQrR_0fil5A2LbSp83n3N/view (page 20)

¹⁵ City of Berkeley, Health Equity & Innovation District Council Item, March 27, 2018 <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/3/folders/1r6rsj-9oH0rnMtYZNXVLFv-2NR-UVxd6>



BEN BARTLETT

CITY COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT 3

- Enhance public health data systems
- Mental Health Treatment
- Trauma-Informed Health Services
 - substance misuse treatment
 - overdose prevention
 - Crisis intervention
 - promote access to physical or behavioral care / preventative medicine
- Remote Medicine
 - infectious disease prevention
 - medical care, testing, and contact tracing
 - support for isolation or quarantine
- Community-based services & Trauma-informed Health Services
 - Funding public benefits navigators to assist community members with navigating and applying for available Federal, State, and local public benefits or services
- Education and Resources
 - access to medical or public health services and enforcement of public health orders

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