



DATE: October 12, 2021

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: City Manager's Office

TITLE: **Agreement Between the City of Mountain View and the Los Altos Mountain View Community Foundation for Solidarity Fund Program Administration**

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the City Manager or designee to enter into an agreement with the Los Altos Mountain View Community Foundation to administer the Mountain View Solidarity Fund Program.

BACKGROUND

On June 22, 2021, the City Council appropriated \$1 million as part of the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Adopted Budget to support the Mountain View Solidarity Fund, a program that provides direct cash assistance to Mountain View residents impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

On September 28, 2021, Council approved the recommended parameters for use of City funds for an enhanced Mountain View Solidarity Fund (Solidarity Fund) program and agreement terms with the Los Altos Mountain View Community Foundation (LAMV/CF) as the Solidarity Fund's fiscal sponsor.

ANALYSIS

The Solidarity Fund is an all-volunteer mutual-aid fund that began in spring 2020 as a direct response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the immediate negative economic impact Santa Clara County's Shelter-in-Place Order had on vulnerable and undocumented residents in Mountain View.

The goal of the Solidarity Fund is to distribute one-time direct cash assistance to income-eligible community members residing in Mountain View who have been financially impacted by the pandemic through job loss, reduced working hours, school closures, or COVID-19-related illness.

In accordance with the direction provided by Council at its September 28, 2021 meeting, staff will proceed in executing an agreement with LAMV/CF as described below.

The recommended agreement is for a term beginning November 1, 2021 and expiring June 30, 2022. The agreement includes terms for an enhanced program to provide up to \$4,000 in one-time broad-based financial assistance to extremely low-income eligible residents (at or below 30% of area median income) residing in one of three Mountain View zip codes, expanded program outreach to neighborhood and community-based organizations in Mountain View, assistance with educating and connecting residents to local safety-net providers, and weekly and monthly reporting metrics.

LAMV/CF will serve as the fiscal sponsor of the Solidarity Fund and will enter into an agreement with the City to receive and track City funds for distribution by the Solidarity Fund, provide administrative support that includes assisting with weekly and monthly reporting as required by the City, and meet the City's insurance and liability requirements as outlined in the City's standard agreement. The City will disburse funds to LAMV/CF in three installments of \$400,000, \$300,000, and \$300,000 based on performance and adherence to program parameters. Administrative fees will not exceed 7.5%, or \$75,000 of the \$1,000,000 in City appropriation for the Solidarity Fund. LAMV/CF can return administrative fees not expended back into the Solidarity Fund without City Council approval.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Fiscal Year 2021-22 Adopted Budget allocated \$1 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to support the Mountain View Solidarity Fund direct cash assistance program. Although the Treasury Department continues to update its Interim Final Rules regarding eligible use of ARPA funds, at this time, the Mountain View Solidarity Fund program meets the existing Treasury Department guidance to provide economic relief to underserved communities experiencing negative economic impacts from the COVID-19 public health emergency. Nevertheless, the City may also apply the ARPA provision which allows the City to receive reimbursement for the provision of government services to the extent of a reduction in its general revenue. This would allow other one-time General Fund moneys to be freed up so that all funding for this program will comply with allowable uses.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Do not authorize an agreement with the Los Altos Mountain View Community Foundation to administer the Mountain View Solidarity Fund Program.
2. Direct changes in agreement terms.
3. Provide other direction.

PUBLIC NOTICING

Agenda posting, and a copy of the report was sent to Adin Miller, Executive Director, Los Altos Mountain View Community Foundation, and the Mountain View Solidarity Fund.

Prepared by:

Christina Gilmore
Assistant to the City Manager

Approved by:

Audrey Seymour Ramberg
Assistant City Manager/
Chief Operating Officer

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