



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

First Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting of November 12, 2013
Second Reading Ordinance for the City Council Meeting of November 19, 2013

DATE: October 22, 2013
TO: Ronald L. Olson, City Manager
FROM: Alison Logan, First Assistant City Attorney
THRU: Sylvia V. Wilson, Human Relations Administrator
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826-3196

Accepting and appropriating funds for Fair Housing Assistance Programs

CAPTION:

Ordinance authorizing the City Manager or designee to execute all documents necessary to accept a grant with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; appropriating \$64,450 in the No. 1071 Community Enrichment Grants fund for Fair Housing Assistance programs.

PURPOSE:

Funding is available from the U. S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) to Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) agencies to carry out the provisions of the Fair Housing Act.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

In 2004, the City's Human Relations Commission received a HUD Certification of Substantial Equivalency. The certification acknowledged that the city's Discrimination in Housing ordinance (chapter 24, Human Relations, Article III) is equivalent to the nation's Fair Housing Act. Through the certification process, HUD entered into a Coop Agreement with the Human Relations office making it a recognized FHAP office. This is the only FHAP office south of San Antonio.

As a HUD FHAP office, we are granted the authority and jurisdiction to investigate and resolve complaints of discrimination in the sale or rental of housing under the Fair Housing Act within the City limits. There are currently two Fair Housing Compliance Officers (one full time and one temporary) who investigate and close an average of 35 fair housing cases per year. CDBG funds used to pay the salary of the temporary employee will be expended by December 2013.

The Partnership Funds will cover the salary of the temporary Compliance Officer to assist with investigations. In addition, outreach training will be provided to the community (i.e. underserved populations) and organizations such as the NAACP, LULAC, Corpus Christi Housing Authority, and the Corpus Christi Apartment Association. Another duty will be to provide referral and assistance information, pertaining to housing that is available through other agencies.

ALTERNATIVES:

None.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

Not applicable.

CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:

Conforms to all city policies.

EMERGENCY / NON-EMERGENCY:

Non-emergency

DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:

Finance
Legal

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

X Operating Revenue Capital Not applicable

Fiscal Year: 2013-2014	Project to Date Expenditures (CIP only)	Current Year	Future Years	TOTALS
Line Item Budget				
Encumbered / Expended Amount				
This item		\$ 64,450.00		\$ 64,450.00
BALANCE		\$ 64,450.00		\$ 64,450.00

Fund(s):

Comments:

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends acceptance of the grant application and appropriation of funds.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Ordinance
Amended Cooperative Agreement Letter, and
Amended Cooperative Agreement.