



**STAFF REPORT**  
**5/24/2023**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Celina Jimenez, Economic Development Director

**SUBJECT:** Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with Kounkuey Design Initiatives in the Amount of \$48,823.00 for the Preparation of the Displacement Avoidance Plan for the Transformative Climate Communities Round 5 Implementation Grant Program

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**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council consider authorizing the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Kounkuey Design Initiatives in the amount of \$48,823.00 for the preparation of the Displacement Avoidance Plan for the Transformative Climate Communities Round 5 Implementation Grant Program.

**BACKGROUND:**

On September 14, 2016, Governor Brown signed AB 2722 (Burke), which created the Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program, administered by the Strategic Growth Council, in partnership with the Department of Conservation (DOC) and other State agencies. The TCC Program furthers the purposes of AB 32 (Nunez, Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006) and AB 2722 (Burke, Chapter 371, Statutes of 2016) by funding projects that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through the development and implementation of neighborhood-level transformative climate community plans that include multiple, coordinated GHG emissions reduction projects that provide local economic, environmental, and health benefits to disadvantaged communities. Previous rounds of TCC funding (Rounds 1-3) were provided by Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF), an account established to receive Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds and direct towards GHG reducing projects through the California Climate Investments (CCI) program. For Rounds 4-6, funding of the TCC program is provided through the General Fund's Climate Budget.

**DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:**

The Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program administered by the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) establishes a new framework for achieving California's climate goals by concentrating significant resources to accelerate local greenhouse gas emission reductions and uplift the State's most disadvantaged communities. While revitalization brings many benefits, there are reasons to be concerned about the negative effect that increased investment and

development might have on vulnerable populations. As such, the TCC Program also requires policies and programs to avoid the displacement of existing residents and local businesses, to help ensure these key stakeholders benefit from the investment. As part of the application submission requirements and potential recipient of Program funds, the City of Coachella would like to enlist the support of Kounkuey Design Initiatives (KDI) to lead the development of a Displacement Avoidance Plan (DAP) through a community process that informs the design of the plan that includes strategies to reduce economic displacement risk within the Project Area.

The Displacement Avoidance Plan development must include, at a minimum, a community engagement process that informs the design of the plan; a 30-45-day period for public review and written comments; and a minimum of one public workshop; thorough analysis of displacement vulnerability of both existing residents and small businesses within the TCC Project Area; revised policies and programs to address the identified vulnerability of existing residents and small businesses within the TCC Project Area; Displacement Avoidance Taskforce structure and membership; and a requirement that the Displacement Avoidance Plan must meet all TCC Program Guidelines. The Displacement Avoidance Plan is categorized as a transformative plan within the Transformative Climate Community grant program guidelines and is a living document that will support community input throughout the Transformative Climate Communities grant program performance period. Kounkuey Design Initiatives needs funding support in order to conduct these activities as required by the grant program:

**Budget**

Task 1: Needs Assessment Research	\$17,210.00
Task 2: Policy Development	\$21,878.00
Task 3: Implementation Framework	\$8,735.00
Task 4: Prepare DAP TCC Application Section	\$1,000.00
Total:	\$48,823.00

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with Kounkuey Design Initiatives in the Amount of \$48,823.00 for the Preparation of the Displacement Avoidance Plan for the Transformative Climate Communities Round 5 Implementation Grant Program
2. Not authorize this request.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The City's General Fund will be reduced by \$48,823.00 if the City Council approves this request.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. KDI Displacement Avoidance Plan Proposal
2. KDI Professional Services Agreement