



STAFF REPORT
9/13/2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Celina Jimenez, Economic Development Director

SUBJECT: Adopt Resolution No. 2023-62 Authorizing the City Manager to Submit an Application to the Strategic Growth Council for the Community Resilience Centers Implementation Grant Program in the Amount of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000) and Approve the Collaborative Stakeholder Structure, the Draft Partnership Agreement, and Execute All Related Grant Documents

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council considers adopting Resolution No. 2023-62 authorizing the City Manager to submit an application to the Strategic Growth Council under the Community Resilience Centers (CRC) Implementation Grant Program in the amount of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) and approve the Collaborative Stakeholder Structure, the Draft Partnership Agreement, and authorize the City Manager to execute all related grant documents

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill (SB) 155 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 258, Statutes of 2021) created SGC's CRC program with "funding...for the construction or retrofit of facilities to serve as community resilience centers that mitigate the public health impacts of extreme heat and other emergency situations exacerbated by climate change." Enabling statute names specific functions for resilience centers, including: hydration stations, cooling centers, clean air centers, respite centers, and community evacuation and emergency response centers. SB 155 also specifies the following conditions: funding physical infrastructure elements critical to emergency response facilities during climate or other disasters; funding to build long-term resilience; and funding CRCs for integrated delivery of services. The enabling legislation also states that CRCs should be led by partnerships of various organization types, such as Tribal governments, academia, nonprofits, local government, or small businesses. Finally, SB 155 requires SGC to ensure community-based organizations (CBOs) and local residents participate in project governance and decision-making; and for SGC to conduct a public process for guidelines development to allow for transparency and stakeholder feedback.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

SGC's CRC program will fund planning, development, construction, and upgrades of neighborhood-level Community Resilience Centers to provide shelter and resources during climate and other emergencies, such as extreme heat events and poor air quality days. The program will also fund ongoing year-round community services and programs, such as food distribution and workforce development training, that build overall community resilience. SGC will prioritize community-serving locations across the state, such as schools, libraries, community centers, health clinics, and places of worship. SGC's CRC program will fund planning, pre-development, and implementation activities. A total of \$84 million will be available for CRC Implementation Grants, each ranging from \$1 million to \$10 million. Implementation Grants will fund new construction and upgrades of facilities to serve as Community Resilience Centers, as well as services and programs that build overall community resilience.

The City of Coachella is proposing to submit a CRC Implementation Grant application in the amount of \$10 million to retrofit the Hidden Harvest building as the city's Community Resilience Center. The City's implementation grant application will request funds in the amount of approximately \$8 million for *physical infrastructure* improvements that will include retrofits and new construction of facilities such as bike lanes, pedestrian paths, a roof-top solar photovoltaic system including battery back-up, shade structures, a barn and tool storage, ADA accessibility, structural system upgrades and other improvements that will help convert the facility into a Community Resilience Center with the capacity to be an emergency shelter, too.

The City's application will also request funding in the amount of approximately \$2 million to provide *social infrastructure* elements that include integrated delivery of services and programs to share knowledge, build networks, and strengthen capacity. The CRC will be infused with a myriad of community resilience services, programs and activities. Partners will include: GRID Alternatives Inland Empire, the Riverside County SBDC, Hidden Harvest, Artec, Emergency Management Services, TODEC, Sarvadoya Institute, The LEAP Institute, UC San Diego Office of Innovation and Commercialization, UC Riverside, the Latino Commission, Riverside University Health, the Urban Youth Conservation Corps, and RAICES Cultura. The City's application culminated in robust community engagement and strong collaborative stakeholder structure to ensure community-based organizations (CBOs) and local residents are meaningfully and consistently included in governance and decision-making for awarded Community Resilience Centers.

FISCAL IMPACT

Grants will be executed between SGC and the City of Coachella, who is the Lead Applicant only. SGC will not enter into any contractual relationship with any Co-Applicants or subcontractors. Once the grant has been executed, the Lead Applicant will be referred to as the "Grantee" and Co-Applicants will be referred to as "Partners." SGC may provide advance payments to qualifying awards to ensure effective implementation of the program. Advance payments can be up to 25% of the total grant award, spread across a series of installments between the start date identified in the grant agreement until June 30, 2025. The complete schedule, process, and reporting

requirements for advance pay will be determined in the Grant Agreement.

Per CRC Program's specific advance pay authority, advance payment will be limited to the service portions of awards when the Grantee is a community-based private non-profit agency, which includes but may not be limited to, community-based organizations and non-governmental organizations. Government entities, including Cities are not eligible for advance payment. All Grantees eligible for advance payment will be required to prioritize Partners that experience low cash reserves to receive advances.

SGC will retain the last 5% the overall grant budget, to be paid once the State has determined that the grant terms have been fulfilled. For reimbursement payments, Partners must invoice the Grantee before the Grantee submits an invoice to SGC. The Grantee will be responsible for compiling all invoices, supporting documentation, and reporting materials for themselves and the Partners into a single package. Once the package has been approved for payment, funds will be disbursed to the Grantee. The Grantee is responsible for disbursing payment to their Partners in accordance with their signed Partnership Agreement.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2023-62 Authorizing the City Manager to Submit an Application to the Strategic Growth Council for the Community Resilience Centers Implementation Grant Program in the Amount of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000) and Approve the Collaborative Stakeholder Structure, the Draft Partnership Agreement, and Execute All Related Grant Documents
2. Not Adopt Resolution No. 2023-62 Authorizing the City Manager to Submit an Application to the Strategic Growth Council for the Community Resilience Centers Implementation Grant Program in the Amount of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000) and Approve the Collaborative Stakeholder Structure, the Draft Partnership Agreement, and Execute All Related Grant Documents

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution No. 2023-62
2. Draft Partnership Agreement
3. CRC Guidelines