

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: *Authorize a Special Appropriation grant agreement with Street Roots in an amount not to exceed \$62,887 to expand its sales area on Portland's eastside and increase support and opportunities to its vendors (Ordinance)

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Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

Street Roots is a non-profit corporation expanding its sales area on Portland's eastside and increasing its support and opportunities to its vendors.

Street Roots exists to provide people who are experiencing poverty, mental and physical disabilities and other forms of bias and oppression the opportunity to create an income for themselves. At the same time, a community is formed to provide people with a sense of place and connection. Everyone is welcome at Street Roots as long as they abide by simple rules, which include being inclusionary. The community extends to the public – many of whom purchase the newspaper. With each sale, not only does a financial transaction occur but also an interaction occurs between two people who very likely would never connect with each other in other circumstances.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

Funding for this grant is available in the FY2016-17 budget in the General Fund Special Appropriations.

Community impacts and community involvement:

The Street Roots Vendor Eastside Expansion project would meet the goal of equity and inclusion. All of the vendors are low-income and homeless or housing insecure. A majority live with a physical or mental disability. Over one-third are people of color. Working as a vendor is one of the few low-barrier and immediate means to earn an income in Portland.

City grant funding would enable Street Roots to move forward with the additional staffing and office hours, enabling the vendors to immediately experience more stability and supports. The additional staffing would also allow Street Roots to migrate from the current triage situation to focusing more on individual vendor's needs.

When there has been a lower vendor-to-staff ratio, Street Roots has been very successful connecting vendors with service providers, such as partnership with CareOregon that has connected over 90 percent of the vendors with health care. For many, this has provided the opportunity to visit a primary care doctor for the first time in years and often leads to a disability designation and access to services and supports.

Budgetary Impact Worksheet**Does this action change appropriations?**☐ **YES:** Please complete the information below.☒ **NO:** Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount