

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Authorize \$73,996 total in grant agreements for the Office of Neighborhood Involvement East Portland Action Plan 2017 Civic Engagement Grant agreements. (Ordinance)

Contact name: lore wintergreen

Contact phone: 503.823.4035

Presenter name: The legislation will be presented by members of the East Portland Action Plan and some recommended grant awardees.

Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

East Portland Action Plan group (EPAP) recommends the eight (8) Civic Engagement Grant Program projects to further community involvement of people not usually included in decision making through these civic engagement projects that lead to more community involvement for under supported race and ethnic culturally specific communities with language appropriate communication.

Council is being asked to take this action because City of Portland funds are proposed to be allocated to community members, neighborhoods, non-profits, and businesses to further community involvement.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

This legislation has no new budgetary impacts. EPAP is allocating \$73,996 of their \$321,709 allocated Fiscal Year 2016 – 17 budget to the eight (8) recommended grant project contracts. This expense is in alignment with the EPAP consensus adopted budget for this Fiscal Year.

Community impacts and community involvement:

At the May 27, 2016 EPAP Operations Committee meeting a Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17 budget proposal, including a recommendation for at least \$150,000 to be applied toward EPAP Civic Engagement Grants and General Grants, was unanimously recommended by 8 Operations Committee members reflecting participation from the following identity elements: Asian/Pacific Islander; business; unemployed; underemployed; low-income; social service provider; housing advocate, community of faith; disabled/differently-abled/physically challenged; Native American, lesbian; and senior/elder.

The Operations Committee brought the above budget proposal forward to the general EPAP and the budget was approved by full consensus at the June 22, 2016 general EPAP meeting. The 40 people in attendance at this meeting represented the following identity elements: under-employed (6); housing advocate (6); Neighborhood Association (7); Neighborhood Prosperity Initiative (3); small business (5); Hispanic/Mexican American/Latina/o (2); social service provider (9); public schools (2); low-income/unemployed (5); African American (2); African/Black (1); lesbian (2); gay (1); senior/elder (8); food justice (1); developmentally disabled (1); physically disabled/challenged (2); Asian/ Pacific Islander (2); community of faith (1); arts (1); City employee (5); Iraqi (1); elected official or representative (1); Native American/Indian (1); transportation equity (6); youth/student (3), Myanmar (1); and Lao (1).

The EPAP Civic Engagement Subcommittee (established through EPAP to organize cultural and language specific civic engagement workshops, share curriculum, advocate for ongoing funding, and advise on East Portland cultural and language specific issues and projects), provided direction in the form of Civic Engagement Grant criteria that was set by full consensus at the EPAP Civic Engagement Subcommittee on May 17, 2016. The nine (9) people in attendance represented the following identity elements: Hispanic/Mexican American/Latina/o (5); Slavic/Russian-speaking (1); Native American/ Indian (1); low-income (4); health advocates (2); community of faith (2); lesbian (1), social service provider (3); schools (2); small business (2); youth/student (1); municipal employee (1) differently abled/disabled/physically challenged (2); and senior/elder (1).

The 2017 Civic Engagement Grant process received 12 grant applications for a total request of \$104,264. EPAP Grants Review Committee (GRC) established a recommendation of eight (8) projects for a total of \$73,996 on November 16, 2016. The following community identity elements were represented by six (6) attending GRC members: small business (4); community of faith (1); African American (2); arts (2); Neighborhood Prosperity Initiative (1); City of Portland staff (1); unemployed (2); underemployed (2); Neighborhood Association (1); senior/elder (1); and lesbian (1).

The above recommendation was approved by full consensus at the December 7, 2016 EPAP general meeting. The following community identity elements were represented by the 75 people attending the meeting: physically disabled/challenged (7); Neighborhood Association (9); Slavic/Russian-speaking (8); City of Portland staff (5); public schools (3); under-employed (10); Lao (1); social service provider (7); workforce provider (5); Neighborhood Prosperity Initiative (8); small business (7); low-income/unemployed (7); community of faith (3); Asian/Pacific Islander (7); food equity (3); senior/elder (7); housing activist (10); Hispanic/Mexican American/Latina/o (7); Black/African American (6); lesbian (1); gay (2); business (1); youth/student (8); elected official or representing staff (4); Asian (3); Iraqi (2); media (2); Native American (3); arts (3); African/Black (1); and transportation equity (5).

This legislation contributes to East Portland livability, displacement prevention and equity for the City of Portland as stipulated in the City adopted East Portland Action Plan:

The AYCO “East African Literacy and Education Project” will: build an organized group of Somali parents to engage with the school system and improve equitable outcomes for immigrant and refugee children. We will hold informational sessions about the school system - how it works, rights and expectations, and opportunities to find help. Documents will be developed to guide schools in what parents and students need to know and to provide monthly survey feedback mechanisms that support student and parent advocacy. This addresses the following City adopted East Portland Action Plan items: L.7.1, SN.5.2, and SN.5.3.

The Community Energy Project INC “Weatherization and Lead Prevention Workshops for Russian Speaking Communities” will: empower community members to assess the condition of their homes, create action plans, and implement the materials provided at the workshops to make their homes more energy efficient and comfortable. Participants will be encouraged to take part in leadership volunteer opportunities, including becoming a Workshop Leader/Trainer. This

addresses the following City adopted East Portland Action Plan strategies and items: HD.2, HD.2.3, and HD.2.4.

East Portland Neighbors, INC – Association of Russian Speaking Compatriots, US “We are a Slavic People, it is our culture, we like to be together. We are residents of East Portland” project will: build community as we actively organize for 11- months to share the annual Slavic festival that includes culture and sports and has interactive activities for different ages, ethnicities, and aspects of our community. This addresses the following City adopted East Portland Action Plan items: CB.1.2+.3, CB.3.2, CB.5.2, CB.7.2, CN.4.3, and EC.4.2.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon “New Americans Initiative – East Portland” project will offer: Culturally and linguistically appropriate Russian-language Citizen Classes that will prepare individuals to successfully pass the U.S. Citizenship Test and become more actively engaged in their East Portland community. Classes include free legal services and a free Voter Education class for those who become naturalized. This addresses the following City adopted East Portland Action Plan action item: CB.2.3.

Elders In Action “Need Assessment of Underserved Older Adults” project will: hold interactive focus discussions that reach, educate, and empower older adults from East Portland’s Bhutanese and Latino/Hispanic communities to: identify service gaps, develop culturally and language specific curriculum, and provide service and advocacy when needed. This addresses the following City adopted East Portland Action Plan strategies and items: CB.2; CB.2.3, and CB.3.1.

Growing Gardens “Families Saludables (Healthy Families)” project, using school-based garden programs, creates a pathway for increasing Latino family engagement with the school community: parents learn alongside their children; share their knowledge; and break bread with teachers, administrators, and other parents in a comfortable setting that builds leadership. Students are engaged in hands-on STEM learning and families learn, in the language and culturally specific classes, workshops, and events, to grow healthy food, which reduces hunger. This addresses the following City adopted East Portland Action Plan strategies: L.2+.7, SN.5+.6, CB.1, and P.1.

Northwest Family Services “Peer Court and Family Empowerment Project”: is an education and restorative justice program that engages Latino high school students in jury trainings led by licensed attorneys and staff. Students learn criminal justice and law professions and develop public speaking skills, while establishing peer accountability without involvement in the juvenile justice system. Latino Family Empowerment workshops build communication skills and help develop understanding and empathy for one another’s experiences through learning how the teen brain works and how to support youth in this time of growth and change, while addressing the negative effects of drugs, alcohol, and truancy. This addresses the following City adopted East Portland Action Plan strategies and items: L.2+.3.2 +.4+.7.

Jim Pepper Native Arts Festival “Jim PepperFest 2017: 5th Annual Jim Pepper Native Arts Festival”: features American Indian/First Nations’ performance artists, speakers, and vendors. We address a wide-range of issues important to American indigenous populations, often in their

own first languages. The focus is on strengthening families and improving health and well-being. Youth will be actively recruited for the board, working group, and Scholarship committee to evaluate future applicants. This addresses the following City adopted East Portland Action Plan strategies and items: CB.1.2+.3, CB.3, CB.4, and CB.5.1.

We are unaware of any objection to the recommended projects, except for the regret that there was not more money to fund additional projects to benefit East Portland through this grant opportunity.

We are only aware of planned testimony.

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