

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: *Authorize a subrecipient contract with the Urban League of Portland totaling \$214,000 for the provision of services in support of fair housing and renter protection (Ordinance)

Contact name: Kim McCarty, Senior Program Coordinator

Contact phone: 503-823-5312

Presenter name: Shannon Callahan, Kim McCarty

Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

City Council significantly increased resources for the provisions of services to renters. Recommendations from a recent Fair Housing audit testing report suggested that more Fair Housing and renter protection services are needed, due to the issues of discrimination, based on race and disability. This contract with the Urban League of Portland offers culturally sensitive Fair Housing education and enforcement resources for low-income renters experiencing housing instability, and discrimination, and delivers the services through culturally specific organizations.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

- The general fund resource for this activity have already been appropriated in FY 2018-19.
- Long-term financial impacts for the City include creation of a program that does not have a guaranteed source of funding.
- This contract can be supported by current staffing and no future contract management staffing is anticipated.
- This contract for service will be in place for two fiscal years, using the funds appropriated in FY 2018-19.

Community impacts and community involvement:

The issue of Fair Housing discrimination has been discussed with the public through the quarterly Fair Housing Advocacy Committee meetings, the press, and the 2018 Fair Housing Audit Test Report (Report) by the Fair Housing Council of Oregon. Stakeholders in the housing industry, renter advocates and culturally specific organization were informed of the Fair Housing audit testing results and asked to offer input.

The report showed larger disparate impacts for Communities of Color and People with Disabilities. The Report suggests that racial discrimination is still very present, but not in ways that would be obvious to people experiencing the discrimination. To address these

kinds of Fair Housing violations the Report and community members suggested support of culturally specific organizations to partner with Fair Housing enforcement agencies.

The Urban League of Portland, and its partners, were selected from a competitive solicitation process. The Urban League and El Programa Hispano Católica will provide culturally specific Fair Housing education and outreach to historically underserved members of the Black and Latino communities, to pair people with barriers to housing with Fair Housing legal services as appropriate.

We do not expect testimony regarding this contract.

100% Renewable Goal:

This contract does not apply to the 100% Renewable Goal.

Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

- ☐ **YES:** Please complete the information below.
- ☒ **NO:** Skip this section