



CITIZENS' COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FULL COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, January 7, 2021
Microsoft Teams Meeting
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order at 5:09 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Irene Riley, Clint Loftman, Emma Kelsey, Azalea Renfield, and Aileen Hernandez.

City Staff Attendance: Brian Cheu (MOHCD), Mike King (MOHCD) and David Taylor (OEWD).

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. **Meeting minutes from November 19, 2020 were motioned, with corrections requested, by Clint Loftman, seconded by Aileen Hernandez, and approved unanimously by the Committee.**

3. Director's Report (*Discussion Item*)

- a. San Francisco will be receiving a substantial amount of funding for COVID-related rent relief from the U.S. Department of Treasury. MOHCD and the City are working to get the \$20+ million out to the community as soon as possible. Supervisor Dean Preston has also proposed a fund specifically for assistance to landlords. Landlords would be able to access these funds if they were able to forgive a high percentage of rents due. Supervisor Preston's ordinance has not yet been approved by the Board. MOHCD is also wondering if the change in federal administration means additional dollars to San Francisco for COVID relief. Department staff will share more as that information becomes available.
- b. MOHCD will present its General Fund budget to the public in February 2021. The general public is invited to attend and provide comment. Department staff will let the CCCD know when this presentation is scheduled if they would like to attend. The presentation is in partnership with the entire Mayor's Office.
- c. MOHCD will likely receive new funding and new staff positions related to the Police Reallocation Fund. Our Director has been working very closely with Sheryl Davis of the Human Rights Commission on how those funds may be allocated. The funding and new positions may support the City's racial equity goals related to homeownership, capacity building, Cultural Districts, and to support connections between existing collaboratives.

4. **Committee Members' Report** (*Discussion Item*)

- a. None.

5. **An Overview of MOHCD's FY 2021-2022 Budget Instructions and Draft Presentation to the Mayor on its Upcoming RFP** (*Discussion Item*)

- a. Mike King presented on the impact of the department's FY 2021-2022 budget instructions. MOHCD estimates roughly \$12 million in budget cuts to its Community Development grant portfolio, compared to its current budget. Mike also provided an overview of the draft presentation MOHCD is considering making to the Mayor to receive her approval for its upcoming Request for Proposals (RFP) process. MOHCD anticipates getting into contract with grantees on October 1, 2021. In that scenario, contracts with current grantees would be extended three months. MOHCD recently received HUD approval to work under this new timeline.

Members discussed.

Has the demand for eviction-related legal representation changed due the pandemic and eviction moratorium? No. Each one of the attorneys funded through the City's Tenant Right to Counsel initiative has a full docket of cases.

Should the department rethink the amount of funding allocated to immigrant legal defense, in light of a new federal administration? It is true that the department's immigrant legal defense investments were largely made in reaction to the current administration's immigration policies. MOHCD intends to speak with the unaccompanied minor collaborative to understand how needs may change next year.

Will the upcoming RFP result in four-year grant awards? Potentially. The Mayor is open to the RFP resulting in four-year grant awards.

What challenges will a four-year RFP create for MOHCD's ability to respond to emergent needs or crises? On a year-to-year basis, MOHCD reserves the right to change its portfolio and reallocate funds as it deems necessary.

Is there overlap between prioritized strategies and the department's race-based investments? Yes. MOHCD will show the client population by race for its priority strategies, such as Tenant Right to Counsel, HOPE SF, and Immigrant Legal Defense.

The department needs to consider presenting this information in a way where it is about cutting underperforming programs, rather than funding to particular communities. MOHCD should show its strategies and the populations served by each grantee within those strategies.

6. **An Overview of OEWD's Upcoming RFP** (*Discussion Item*)

- a. David Taylor provided a brief update on OEWD's upcoming RFP. The tentative release date is February 10, 2021. Compared to MOHCD, OEWD only has a small amount of federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) dollars in its budget. OEWD's

Workforce Development grant budget will increase roughly 100% with in flux of \$20+ million from Police Reallocation Fund.

The Police Reallocation Fund dollars will be procured separately from OEWD's regular Workforce Development RFP, which typically funds its ongoing job centers and training initiatives. The timeline for getting into contract with new grant awards will likely be around November 1, 2021.

7. Public Comment

- a. Hans How shared by written comment that he was a little surprised to hear that the Asian community is not being included when it comes to prioritization of funding recipients based on MOHCD's racial equity goals. He shared that the Asian community has been hit hard by the pandemic, as evidenced through the closure of small businesses in Chinatown, the high COVID fatality rate among low-income Asian residents living in SROs, the increased hate crimes and racism, the lack of access to language and culturally appropriate social services, etc. Hans suggests that the department conduct direct outreach to Asian community groups to solicit their feedback before finalizing its racial equity framework, even if there has not been a directive to do so. He understands that tough funding choices have to be made amidst budget cuts, but thinks the Committee should try to engage community groups in a more public and explicit way for the sake of transparency.

8. Adjournment at 7:04 p.m.