

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

**INTRODUCED BY VICE MAYOR LARRY REID, COUNCILMEMBERS
NOEL GALLO, LYNETTE GIBSON MCELHANEY AND LOREN TAYLOR**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR OR HIS
DESIGNEE TO AUTHORIZE CONTRACTS AND/OR GRANT
AGREEMENTS WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO DELIVER ON THE
HIGHEST PRIORITY COVID-19 CARES ACT FUND ALLOCATIONS
FROM THE FY 2020-2021 BUDGET**

WHEREAS, the global Coronavirus pandemic has adversely impacted the lives and livelihood of many Oakland residents and according to data from the Alameda County Department of Public Health Department as of May 13, 2020, the zip codes that have the highest case rates of COVID-19 (94601, 94603, 94619, and 94621) are in Districts 5, 6, and 7 and are home to a significant number of Oakland's African American and Latino residents;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 crisis shows that one of the deadliest underlying conditions in America is systemic racism; and, for generations, racial and economic segregation has limited Oaklanders' mobility, resulting in the concentration of low-income Black, Latinx, Indigenous, Asian, and other people of color in socio-economically disadvantaged communities – communities exposed to toxic chemicals and other unhealthy land uses, failing infrastructure, and lack of access to services; and

WHEREAS, on May 19, 2020, and amended on June 2, 2020, the City Council declared a Local Health Emergency For Oakland's Black And Latinx Residents due to the COVID-19 pandemic which cited reports, data and information provided by governmental, health, community and other organizations documenting the devastating and unequal impacts of COVID-19 on Oakland's Black and Latinx residents; and

WHEREAS, The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020, provides for payments to Local governments navigating the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak and requires that the payments from the Coronavirus Relief Fund only be used to cover expenses that are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the State or government; and were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland City Council is committed to redressing social and economic inequity and has adopted the Oakland Equity Indicators Report (2018) as a guide to redress persistent inequity and the 2018 Equity indicators report stated that one's life outcomes are specifically linked to their race and where they live; and

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2019, the City Council adopted the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-21 biennial budget (Resolution No. 87759 C.M.S.), which appropriated funds for the expenditures proposed by said budget; and

WHEREAS, the City Council reviewed FY 2020-21 revenues and expenditures as part of the midcycle budget review and on June 23, 2020, the City Council adopted the FY 2020-21 Midcycle Budget Amendment; and

WHEREAS, the City Council allocated \$26.9 million of revenue in the the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) to necessary expenditures related to the COVID-19 pandemic, prioritizing CARES Act funding to those areas, individuals, and businesses most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, for the past 4 months, the 30 members of the Oakland Frontline Healers, and its coalition of large nonprofits and volunteer organizations, have been working together to address COVID-19 vulnerabilities in the Black Community in all its shapes and forms. In April they succeeded in supporting over 8,000 Oakland residents with services ranging from food delivery to case management and shelter stays; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland Frontline Healers through collaboration that pairs the institutional strength of partners like BOSS and ROOTS with credible messengers in the street like Adamika Village and Realizing Potential Incorporated are exactly the kinds of innovations needed to meet the challenges of COVID-19 and its constant reshaping of the service provider landscape. Working together, they have been able to innovate and collaborate at unprecedented levels to serve our most impacted neighbors rather than operating in silos; and

WHEREAS, The Oakland Frontline Healers is a collaboration of Adamika Village, East Oakland Collective, S.H.A.D.E Movement, We as One, Deeply Rooted, Men of Influence, Word Assembly Church, Realizing Potential Incorporated, Vision Quilt, Regina's Door/Conjure and Mend, BOSS, Black Cultural Zone, Global Communication

Education & Art, MISSEY, Owing My Own Truth, Roots Community Health Center, Youth Uprising, Downtown Oakland Association, the Oakland Violence Prevention Coalition, the Mercer Brotherhood, East Oakland Pillars, Bay Nation Health, Preventative Care Pathways Serenity House, Joan Hoffman M.D, Dr. James Watson Wellness Center, and Dr. Theo Shawl; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to grant \$500,000 to the Oakland Frontline Healers from Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) for community health interventions; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that the East Oakland and West Oakland flatlands are healthy food deserts with a lack access to fresh food and vegetables and the City Council recognizes that lack of access to fresh food and vegetables leads to disease and worse health outcomes for East Oakland residents; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the food insecurity challenges faced by residents in these communities due to wage/job loss and business closures, and that pre-existing health conditions worsen the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Local food entrepreneurs/caterers and farmers markets are a proven solution to addressing food security issues and income security issues like those plaguing the communities most severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated Shelter-In-Place Order; and

WHEREAS, the Black Cultural Zone is a collaborative of Black residents, leaders, organizers and advocates formed to keep culture and place for Black Oaklanders. Their stated purpose is to innovate, incubate, inform and elevate community driven projects that allow residents and culture to thrive. Their priorities are place keeping, arts, cultural preservation and innovation, economic development, and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Black Cultural Zone has secured a lease to activate the formerly vacant city-owned lot at 6955 Foothill Blvd and has developed plans for an ongoing Farmers Market at that location.

WHEREAS, The City Council wishes to grant \$150,000 to the Black Cultural Zone from the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) for a healthy food programs through the creation of a farmer's market in East Oakland; and

WHEREAS, the City's Digital Arts and Culinary Academy's (DACA) is located in East Oakland and its mission is to help participants grow and build self confidence through programs that include Culinary Arts and Urban Agriculture. The DACA center has a commercial kitchen which requires \$150,000 to become compliant with state and local regulations to help food entrepreneurs build their businesses and host cooking

and nutrition classes to benefit the local community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to allocate an amount not to exceed \$150,000 from the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) designated to retrofit city facilities to comply with COVID-mandates to renovate the commercial kitchen in the DACA facility; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that the Oakland unemployment rate in the City has dramatically risen due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with disproportionate high impact on low-income Black and Latinx communities; and

WHEREAS, The Brothers & Sisters BarberCosmo Academy is a well established program that currently operates in the Fruitvale neighborhood that is dedicated to the promotion, development and operationalization of bundled affordable barbering and cosmetology training packages to Oakland residents desirous of practical training and skills acquisition in the area of barbering and cosmetology arts and sciences with the ultimate goal, for the resident, of either working in a hair/beauty salon or owning their own hair/beauty business; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that there is a strong need in East Oakland for programs that create opportunities for residents to gain valuable job skills that allow them to build wealth and prevent further displacement of long term residents and their families, and wishes to grant \$500,000 to The Brothers & Sisters BarberCosmo Academy from the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) from the Entrepreneurship Innovations Fund program described in the Council's 20-21 midcycle budget amendment; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland African American Chamber of Commerce, Latino Chamber of Commerce, Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, and Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce provide assistance to local small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, all four Ethnic Chamber of Commerce, including the Oakland African American Chamber of Commerce, Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, Latino Chamber of Commerce and Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce are working to connect their local small business owners with City departments during the shelter in place period; and

WHEREAS, all four ethnic chambers provide and represent the rapid response from the communities, and share and outreach to their member businesses with technical and/or language barriers; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to grant \$400,000 from the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) for Small Business technical assistance/outreach to the four ethnic chambers of commerce (Oakland African American Chamber of Commerce \$100,000,

Latino Chamber of Commerce \$100,000, Chinatown Chamber of Commerce \$100,000, and Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce \$100,000); and

WHEREAS, The Unity Council provides critical financial assistance, resources, and coaching to low-income children, families, and immigrants. The Unity Council also provides business assistance and connects business owners to critical resources during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to grant \$100,000 from the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) for Small Business technical assistance/outreach to The Unity Council; and

WHEREAS, The East Oakland Entrepreneurship Forum works to advance entrepreneurship opportunities, sustainability, and economic stability/mobility for East Oakland entrepreneurs. The Forum is made up of representatives from a host of member organizations, including Elevator Works, Heartland Merchants Association, the Mills Business Alumnae Consulting Group, Uptima Business Bootcamp, and Working Solutions; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to grant \$100,000 from the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) for Small Business technical assistance/outreach to the East Oakland Entrepreneurial Forum; and

WHEREAS, OCCUR is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that is working to create a better Oakland by serving youth and adults through building healthy communities and mentoring programs. OCCUR also provides business assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to grant \$100,000 from the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) for Small Business technical assistance/outreach to OCCUR; and

WHEREAS, Spearitwurx, is an Oakland based organization that has been in existence for several years and promotes African American cultural and arts programming that intentionally supports community healing and empowerment, and provides contract employment opportunities to many local artists; and

WHEREAS, Spearitwurx created an incredible exhibit housed in East Oakland at Eastmont Mall. The Sankofa Project is a Living Museum that combines history live performance art and sacred altars into an interactive timeline that brings African and American history to life. Spearitwurx works collaboratively and employs a network and community of other artists; and

WHEREAS, the Sankofa Project was a one of a kind exhibit in East Oakland that brought culturally relevant artistic expression to an area that has no other performance arts and was forced to close its exhibit at Eastmont Mall due to COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to grant \$100,000 to Spearitwurx from the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) designated for artists impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in conformance with City requirements, the above named organizations will provide documentation for the administration and use of the Cares Act Relief Funds; and now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes the City Administrator to execute a grant not to exceed \$500,000 to the Oakland Frontline Healers from Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) for community health interventions for the above purpose; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Council authorizes the City Administrator to execute a grant not to exceed \$150,000 to the Black Cultural Zone from the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) for healthy food programs through the creation of a farmer's market in East Oakland for the above purpose; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes the allocation not to exceed \$150,000 from the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) designated to retrofit city facilities to comply with COVID-mandates to renovate the commercial kitchen in the DACA facility; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Council authorizes the City Administrator to execute a grant not to exceed \$500,000 to The Brothers & Sisters BarberCosmo Academy from the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) from the Entrepreneurship Innovations Fund program described in the Council's 20-21 midcycle budget amendment for the above purpose; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Council authorizes the City Administrator to execute a grant not to exceed \$400,000 from the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) for Small Business technical assistance/outreach to the four ethnic chambers of commerce (Oakland African American Chamber of Commerce \$100,000, Latino Chamber of Commerce \$100,000, Chinatown Chamber of Commerce \$100,000, and Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce \$100,000) for the above purpose; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Council authorizes the City Administrator to execute a grant not to exceed \$100,000 each from the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) for Small Business technical assistance/outreach to (1) The Unity Council, (2) The East Oakland Entrepreneurial Forum, and (3) OCCUR for the above purpose; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Council authorizes the City Administrator to execute a grant not to exceed \$100,000 to Spearitwurx from the Cares Act Relief Fund (2071) designated for artists impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic for the above purpose; and

FURTHER RESOLVED: That said agreements shall be approved as to form and legality by the Office of the City Attorney and placed on file in the Office of the City Clerk; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FORTUNATO BAS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, REID, TAYLOR, THAO AND
PRESIDENT KAPLAN

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST:

Asha Reed
Interim City Clerk and
Clerk of the Council of the
City of Oakland, California