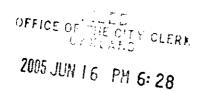
# CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT



To:

Office of the City Administrator

Attn:

Deborah Edgerly

From:

Department of Human Services

Date:

June 28, 2005

Re:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A TWO-YEAR CONTRACT WITH FAMILY BRIDGES, INC. TO OPERATE THE HONG LOK SENIOR CENTER FOR FISCAL YEARS 2005-2006 AND

2006-2007 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000

#### **SUMMARY**

The Resolution will authorize a two-year contract between the City of Oakland and Family Bridges, Inc. to operate the Hong Lok Senior Center in the City's Chinatown District. The Department of Human Services will oversee the contract.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

Funding in the amount of \$200,000 for this contract is included in the proposed policy budget for Fiscal Year 2005-2007. The funds in the amount of \$100,000 annually are budgeted in General Purpose Fund 1010, Org 75631, Project P200410.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The City of Oakland's Comprehensive Plan for Seniors, originally developed in 1987, recommended that the City provide additional services to elderly groups with special needs, including diverse populations. The Plan also recommended that the City should develop and support a network of senior centers. The City Council responded to these recommendations, and to the needs of seniors in the Chinatown neighborhood, by authorizing funds in the 2002-2003 budget for the Hong Lok Senior Center to serve seniors residing in the Chinatown community. The City of Oakland 2003-2005 policy budget included an annual appropriation of \$100,000 for the operations of a Senior Center in the City's Chinatown District.

The contractual requirements for the funding include specific deliverables such as 12 special events each year, voter education activities, and classes in computers and English literacy. The contractor Family Bridges, Inc. has met all of the current contract requirements and deliverables. The Center sees more than 400 seniors each year, and in addition to providing classes and social events the Center serves as the site of a daily subsidized hot lunch.

In keeping with Council Goal #3A, "Provide effective community programs for seniors, youth, and people with disabilities", the Department of Human Services' proposed

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Biennial Budget for 2005-2007 includes an annual appropriation of \$100,000 to provide operational support to the Hong Lok Senior Center. This funding sustains the original funding agreement between the City and Family Bridges, Inc., whereby the City Council agreed to provide direct support for the Hong Lok Senior Center in order to address the needs of the growing monolingual Asian and Southeast Asian senior population. Family Bridges, Inc. continues to demonstrate effective operation of the Hong Lok Senior Center, and the Center continues to meet the needs of the community; therefore the Department of Human Services requests that funding for Family Bridges, Inc. and the Hong Lok Senior Center be approved by the City Council.

#### **KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS**

Establishment of the City contribution to the Hong Lok Senior Center in the most recent biennial budget has allowed the Center to involve monolingual seniors of Asian ancestry in a number of meaningful recreational and educational activities. Courses and instruction available include computer classes, English language classes, and naturalization classes.

The Hong Lok Senior Center has conducted outreach to local Asian seniors through presentations at senior housing facilities and to senior service workers. Recently the Hong Lok Senior Center and the Family Bridges, Inc. have begun to work closely with the Seton Senior Center which serves primarily Vietnamese seniors, and to develop programs targeting the needs of Oakland's Laotian and Cambodian senior populations.

#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Family Bridges, Inc. organization has operated a Center at 275 7th Street, in a building in the historic "Chinese Zodiac Garden" for more than 10 years. The property leaseholder, The Lion's Club, provides the site and building to Family Bridges, Inc. at no cost, except that Family Bridges, Inc. has agreed to pay the costs of utilities and building maintenance. The Lion's Club leases this property from the Oakland Office of Parks and Recreation. The Center provides social and recreational services to local seniors at no charge, as well as a daily hot lunch for a contribution of \$2.25. Activities include trips to local historic and shopping venues, exercise classes including Tai Chi and Yoga, health education classes, internet and computer classes, and translation to assist seniors in accessing other local services.

#### SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

#### **ECONOMIC:**

This contract is with a local vendor. The vendor subscribes to the City's Living Wage Ordinance.

# **ENVIRONMENTAL:**

The vendor provides transportation for populations that cannot use public transportation and do not have access to private vehicles.

#### **SOCIAL EQUITY:**

Vendor gives many senior residents access to education, nutrition and social services that might not otherwise be available in their community. Access to these programs and services will improve the quality of life for Oakland senior citizens who participate in the Hong Lok Senior Center.

### DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

This resolution authorizes a contract that will support access to necessary services for Oakland's elderly Asian populations. The Family Bridges, Inc. organization has a history of establishing and ensuring access to services for people with disabilities and senior citizens.

# RECOMMENDATION(S) AND RATIONALE

Staff recommends that a resolution authorizing the City Administrator to execute a twoyear contract with Family Bridges, Inc. to operate the Hong Lok Senior Center for Fiscal Years 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 in the amount not to exceed \$200,000.

# **ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

That the City Council approve this resolution authorizing the City Administrator to execute the contract with Family Bridges, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

ANDREA YOUNGDAHL

Director, Department of Human Services

Prepared by:

Tracy Jensen, Senior Services Administrator Department of Human Services

APPROVED FOR FORWARDING TO THE

LIFE ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE

Office of the City Administrator

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Approved as to Form and Legality
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City Attorney 2/3 vote required

# OFFICE OF THE CITY COAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

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ABSTENTION-

ATTEST:

LA TONDA SIMMONS

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City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the City of Oakland, California