



AGENDA REPORT

TO: Edward D. Reiskin
City Administrator

FROM: Alexandria McBride,
Chief Resilience Officer

SUBJECT: Resolution Accepting In-Kind Services
for FUSE Corp Equitable Recovery
Fellows

DATE: November 19, 2020

City Administrator Approval 

Date: Nov 25, 2020

RECOMMENDATION

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator Or Designee To: (1) Accept A Gift In-Kind Services Valued Up To One Million, Four Hundred Thousand and Forty Thousand Dollars (\$1,440,000) From FUSE Corps to Host Up To Eight (8) Executive-Level Fellows in Multiple City Departments to Support Equitable Recovery Projects; And (2) Negotiate and Execute An Agreement Between FUSE Corps and the City of Oakland.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Staff is requesting that City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the City Administrator to accept a gift of in-kind services valued up to one million, four hundred thousand and forty thousand dollars (\$1,440,000) from FUSE Corps, a nonprofit organization that partners with local government to help urban communities thrive. The gift would support the installment of up to eight (8) FUSE Fellows across multiple City departments, working on one-year projects that promote equitable recovery and resilience. These projects, developed by City staff, are captured in the Oakland Equitable Recovery Fellows Concept Note (**Attachment A**). Staff is also requesting authorization to execute an agreement with FUSE Corps to conduct this work.

BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

The City of Oakland has partnered with FUSE Corp to place several FUSE Fellows in departments over the years, most recently in the Planning and Building Department, Economic and Workforce Development Department and the Mayor's Office. Earlier this year, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, FUSE Corp suggested City Staff submit a proposal for an economic recovery and resilience strategy that would require the support of multiple FUSE Fellows across departments. The proposal, reflected in table 1 below and described more extensively in **Attachment A**, recommends eight Equitable Recovery Fellows to work on one-year projects that help meet shared City priorities and advance an equitable recovery.

City Council
December 15, 2020

Table 1 - Oakland Equitable Recovery Fellows

| Fellowship Project / Scope of Work | Departmental Stakeholders | Status |
|--|---|--|
| Implementation of Oakland's Economic Recovery Plan | Economic and Workforce Development, Human Services | Scope fully defined in Attachment B – FUSE Corps Job Descriptions |
| Closing the Digital Divide | Information Technology Department, Mayor's Office | Scope fully defined in Attachment B – FUSE Corps Job Descriptions |
| Establishing a City-wide Strategic Performance Management System | City Administrator's Office | Scope fully defined in Attachment B – FUSE Corps Job Descriptions |
| Designing Equitable Community Engagement | City Administrator's Office, Department of Race and Equity | Scope fully defined in Attachment B – FUSE Corps Job Descriptions |
| Advancing Racial Justice and Public Safety Reforms. | City Administrator's Office, Department of Race and Equity, Department of Violence Prevention | Scope still being defined |
| Establishing a Public Health Partnerships to Reduce Racial Disparities | Mayor's Office, Human Services, City Administrator's Office | Scope still being defined |
| Equitable Access to High-Quality Jobs | Economic and Workforce Development Department | Scope still being defined |
| Designing a Public-Facing Tool for Adaptive Community Plans | City Administrator's Office | Scope still being defined |

Together, these projects are the Oakland Equitable Recovery Fellows. Some project scopes have been fully-defined in coordination with City staff and repurposed into job descriptions (see **Attachment B – FUSE Corps Job Descriptions**), while other project scopes are still being defined with City staff and may evolve based on City priorities and/or departmental needs.

Each fellow cost approximately \$180,000 per year and, to date, FUSE has raised approximately \$500,000 with the goal of raising funding (or seeking other grant sources) to support all eight of the Oakland Equitable Recovery Fellows. Available funds can be deployed immediately to bring on the first FUSE Fellows as early as 1Q2021, pending Council's approval.

ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES

As a mission driven nonprofit, FUSE Corps is dedicated to supporting city and county partners in all aspects of COVID-19 response and recovery, ensuring that they emerge from this crisis as more resilient and equitable places for all residents.

To progress and expand upon these response efforts, FUSE Corps is partnering with philanthropies to sponsor Equitable Recovery Teams across the country. These teams of 5+ fellows in each of the participating governments will focus on various elements of equity-based recovery, accelerating progress in issue areas such as living-wage jobs and small business support, homelessness and affordable housing, healthcare access, justice reform, education and childcare.

FUSE seeks to partner with the City of Oakland to embed an Equitable Recovery Team that will support leadership in redoubling efforts to close the equity gaps exacerbated by the pandemic and facilitate needed public safety reforms. At the end of the fellowship program, the City of Oakland will have made substantial advancements in racial equity and will be on the path to sustain a resilient recovery from the pandemic. FUSE Fellows, who are comprised of talented mid-career professionals, work intimately with civic leaders to achieve specific deliverables related to a defined set of issues. Because FUSE Fellows work towards a targeted goal throughout the fellowship term of one year, results are comprehensive and cannot be replicated at the staff level given staff's competing responsibilities and limited resources.

FISCAL IMPACT

FUSE Corp has already begun fundraising to cover all costs for the Oakland Equitable Recovery Fellows. There will be no fiscal impact since these all costs will be covered by external sources from funds raised by FUSE Corp.

PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST

No outreach was deemed necessary for the proposed policy action beyond the standard City Council agenda noticing procedures.

COORDINATION

This report was prepared in coordination with the Economic and Workforce Development Department, the Budget Bureau, and the City Attorney's Office.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: Three (3) of the eight (8) Oakland Equitable Recovery Fellows will have specific scopes of work in the support the mission of Oakland's [Economic Development Strategy](#) (adopted by City Council in November 2017), as well as input from [Oakland Economic Recovery Council Interim Report](#) (received by City Council in November 2020). For example, one of the Oakland Equitable Recovery Fellows will be tasked with executing a feasibility study to determine the best models for last mile broadband, with the goal of supporting the City's commitment to closing the digital divide, a recommendation in aforementioned Oakland Economic Recovery Council Interim report.

Environmental: Three (4) of the eight (8) Oakland Equitable Recovery Fellows will have specific scopes of work in the support the mission of Oakland's [2030 Equitable Climate Action Plan](#) (City Council in July 2020) and the Resilient Oakland Playbook, including a fellow assigned to improving public health outcomes for Oakland's most vulnerable populations

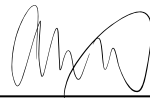
Race & Equity: Each fellowship project will center the needs of communities that are most impacted by racial disparities. Additionally, one of the Oakland Equitable Recovery Fellows will be tasked with building a more robust performance management system to measure racial outcomes, a key component to advancing equity in the City's policies and programs.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator Or Designee To: (1) Accept A Gift In-Kind Services Valued Up To One Million, Four Hundred Thousand and Forty Thousand Dollars (\$1,444,000) From FUSE Corps to Host Up To Eight (8) Executive-Level Fellows in Multiple City Departments to Support Economic Recovery and Resilience; And (2) Negotiate and Execute An Agreement Between FUSE Corps and the City of Oakland

For questions regarding this report, please contact Alexandria McBride, Chief Resilience Officer at 510-238-6454.

Respectfully submitted,



Alexandria McBride, Chief Resilience Officer
City Administrator's Office

Attachments (2):

- A: Oakland Equitable Recovery Fellows
- B: FUSE Corps Job Descriptions