

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

M. Morison
City Attorney

2013 APR 11 AM 8:47
RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.
Introduced by Councilmember _____

Resolution Appropriating And Allocating Up To \$25,000 Per Year To The Community Benefit District Formation Grant Program And Authorizing The City Administrator To Approve and Execute Grant Agreements With Grantees Without Returning to Council

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland contains commercial districts and industry sector groups desiring to form business or property-based assessment districts for the purpose of enhancing the security, safety, appearance, and economic viability of their areas; and

WHEREAS, the formation of assessment districts are an effective tool to increase economic vitality in Oakland's commercial districts by eliminating blight, supporting the retention, expansion and attraction of businesses, and increasing job and entrepreneurship opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Oakland's nine existing assessment districts have helped to bring out improved safety and cleanliness through security patrols, security and cleaning ambassadors, leadership in Merchant Watch and Neighborhood Crime Prevention Councils; sidewalk cleaning and graffiti abatement; enhanced landscaping, seating, sidewalks, pedestrian crossings; production of dozens of annual events, including street fairs, seasonal festivals, farmers markets, restaurant walks; increased communication with businesses, residents, shoppers and media via newsletters, websites and news releases; and stronger relationships with City of Oakland staff in Community & Economic Development, Police, Public Works; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the Office of Economic and Workforce Development has prepared a Community Benefit District (CBD) Formation Grant Program to fund technical assistance to stakeholder groups of businesses and property owners in the City to assist in the formation of such districts; and

WHEREAS, grants of up to \$10,000, not to exceed a total of \$25,000, through the Program will be matched by funds raised by the formation groups, and is a cost-effective investment on the part of the City to leverage its limited resources to create more CBDs in Oakland; and

WHEREAS, initial funding totaling \$25,000 is available in the Community Development Block Grant Fund (2108), Economic Development Organization (02981), Business Development Project (G01900); and

WHEREAS, consultant services are necessary to implement formations, and such services are of a technical, professional and specialized nature, such services are temporary, and will not result in the loss of employment by any City employees; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to avoid potential delays by authorizing the City Administrator to approve and execute all grant agreements with the budget available for this purpose, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the City Council adopts the Community Benefit District Formation Grant Program and authorizes the City Administer to manage the Program; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is in the best interest of the City and revitalization efforts for the assessment district formation groups to enter into contracts directly with consultants on an as needed basis; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes the City Administrator to create and implement an CBD Formation Grant Program application process, select grantees who meet the application criteria, and disburse funds to the grantees in a timely manner within the available budget without further Council authorization; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes the City Administrator to appropriate additional funds and authorize additional grants only as they become available through private donations or other sources; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that all agreements executed pursuant to the Resolution be approved as to form and legality by the Office of the City Attorney and be filed with the Office of the City Clerk.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, SCHAAF and PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: _____
LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California