

STAFF REPORT

UPDATE TO METRO COUNCIL ON COUNCIL GENERAL SPONSORSHIP FUNDS AND CONCLUSION OF THE COUNCIL COMMUNITY SUPPORT FUND

Date: 10/17/2022
Department: Council Office
Meeting Date: 11/03/2022

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Presenter: Victor Sin, Policy Advisor &
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Length: 15 minutes

ISSUE STATEMENT

This is an opportunity for Metro Council to receive a summary of the Council Community Support fund program and updates on Metro general sponsorship. In 2020, Metro Council established the Council Community Support program out of the Council sponsorship funds to support 501(c)3 non-profits providing direct services in response to the pandemic. Metro Council has since concluded that programmed funding and returned to supporting Metro general sponsorships. This update is provided on direction from President Peterson.

ACTION REQUESTED

Receive feedback and comment from Metro Council on the Council Community Support fund program and updates to Council sponsorship funding.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

Continue to support staff implementation of Metro Council's sponsorship funding priorities:

- Environmental stewardship and regional climate initiatives.
- Regional jobs and economic support (labor and industry).
- Support for local community engagement and public involvement.
- Prioritizing programs that engage and support BIPOC, immigrant, refugee, and other underserved communities.

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

None.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

1. Known Opposition/support/community feedback

No opposition known at this time.

2. Legal Antecedents

None.

3. Anticipated effects

None.

4. Financial implications

None.

BACKGROUND

Historically, Metro's General Sponsorship Program has been managed alongside other departmental sponsorship funds by an agency wide inter-departmental team. That team is facilitated at this time by a Council Office staff member. Certain departments (Council, WPES, Parks and Nature, DEI, Planning and FRS) have sponsorship funds allocated to support requests that meet minimum eligibility criteria; additional considerations include policy direction from Metro Council and the specified priorities of each department.

In 2020, Metro Council redirected sponsorship funding to support non-profit organizations with 501(c)3 status providing direct relief/recovery services to community members experiencing hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Council Community Support Fund began accepting requests for funding in September of 2020. The Council Review Team, which included Councilors Rosenthal, Lewis, and Craddick, selected awards based on priorities set by Metro Council.

These priorities included funding programs that address health and wellness, housing and food instability, economic support, and youth education with a focus on supporting BIPOC communities. In total, this program has funded 101 requests at more than \$100,000 which includes additional funding support from other Metro departments between Fall of 2020 and Spring of 2022.

With the decline in the number of funding requests and indication that many non-profits have moved back to regular programming for non-pandemic related community events and programs, Metro Council has concluded the Community Support Fund program.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Recipients list for the FY20/21 & FY 21/22 Council COVID-19 Community Support Fund

For work session:

- Is legislation required for Council action? **No**
- If yes, is draft legislation attached? **N/A**