



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL** **DATE: JUNE 7, 2016**

**FROM: COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** **WARDS: ALL**  
**DEPARTMENT**

**SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING FROM THE REINVESTMENT FUND AND**  
**ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION FOR THE INVEST HEALTH**  
**INITIATIVE IN THE AMOUNT \$60,000 – SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION**

## **ISSUE:**

The issue for City Council consideration is to accept \$60,000 in grant funds from the Reinvestment Fund and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for the Invest Health Strategies for Healthier Cities.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council:

1. Accept grant funds in the amount of \$60,000 from the Reinvestment Fund and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation;
2. Authorize an increase in estimated revenues in the amount of \$60,000, and appropriate expenditures in the same amount to accounts as assigned by the Finance Department, and
3. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute all necessary documentations to accept the grant.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Invest Health is a national initiative aimed to transform how city leaders work together to develop new strategies for increasing and leveraging private and public investments to accelerate improvements in neighborhoods facing the biggest barriers to better health. The Invest Health program is the collaborative effort between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Reinvestment Fund and provides in grant funds to fifty (50) mid-sized U.S. cities across the nation. In April 2016, the City of Riverside was selected to be a recipient of the Invest Health Initiative to receive grant funds of \$60,000.

The Invest Health Initiative will be administered by a five-member team from the City of Riverside, or the Riverside Invest Health Team, to consider strategies to address drivers of health including jobs, housing, education, community safety, and environmental conditions around localizing the food system. Members of the Riverside Invest Health Team include representatives from:

1. Kaiser Permanente;
2. Riverside County Department of Public Health;
3. Riverside Food Systems Alliance;
4. Altura Credit Union; and
5. City of Riverside.

The majority of the funds from the grant will be used to invest in a GrowRIVERSIDE initiative project aimed at facilitating the development of the city's local food system; possible examples of community-based projects can include raising awareness for healthy food, increasing access to nutritious food, education and training around food systems, infrastructure investment and/or job training opportunities in food and agricultural systems. A smaller portion of the grant funds will be used to pay for travel expenses for team members to attend national meetings. The inaugural meeting for all fifty teams from across the U.S. will convene in Philadelphia on June 7-10, 2016, one of six national conventions. These national meetings will provide the Riverside Invest Health Team access to a broader learning community, highly skilled faculty advisors and coaches, and opportunities to engage with a national group of local stakeholders over an 18-month period between June 2016 and December 2017.

Specific Invest Health program outcomes that are anticipated as a result of the Riverside Invest Health Team's participation include:

- *Bringing together disparate sectors* to align around a vision for better health, create innovative ideas, and unlock new sources of investment;
- *Test potential solutions* to inform the national conversation about how to best invest to achieve health equity in more U.S. communities;
- *Help mid-sized cities attract capital* to improve health outcomes in low-income communities;
- *Help cities use data* as a driver for change through the lens of a data framework for assessing impact;
- *Build lasting relationships* within the selected cities to extend beyond the length of the program and help inform work in other communities.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact for this report as no matching funds are required

Prepared by:	Rafael Guzman, Community & Economic Development Director
Certified as to availability of funds:	Scott G. Miller, Interim Finance Director/Treasurer
Approved by:	Al Zelinka, FAICP, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney