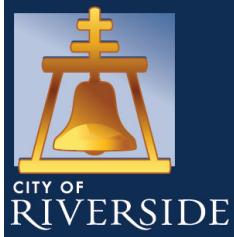


REVISED

Date: 9-19-23

Item No.: 9



**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT
SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH
COMMUNITY CONNECT TO ADMINISTER
A SMALL AND MICRO-BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM**

Community & Economic Development

City Council

September 19, 2023

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1

BACKGROUND

- March 11, 2021 - President Biden signed ARPA into law to facilitate COVID 19 Recovery
 - Established Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund
- November 9, 2021 - City Council approved first allocation of \$36,767,594 of ARPA funding
 - 1st Round “Local Small and Micro-Business Grant” program



2

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2

DISCUSSION

- Pre-pandemic: small businesses and micro-enterprises are nearly 70% of Riverside business community
 - Over 32% of local employment
- Riverside area has largest number of family-owned businesses in the country
- Riverside Small and Micro-Business Grant Goals
 - Infuse resiliency capital
 - Target disadvantaged and underserved
 - Ensure equitable opportunities



3



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3

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS 2193

- October 2022 – RFP 2193 seeking consultant to partner in Grant program administration
 - 28 prospective bidders
 - 2 proposals received and evaluated

Vendor	Location	Rank
Inland Southern California 211+ dba Community Connect	Riverside, CA	1
Geocko Inc DBA FORWARD	Seattle, WA	2

4



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4

GRANT PROGRAM

- Grant funding \$5,220,051.95
 - Revitalization and business resilience
 - Security, repairs and replacements
 - Façade improvements
 - New hiring and employee training
 - Business equipment and improvements
 - Computer and software upgrades
 - Marketing and branding
- Consultant Agreement \$779,948.05



5

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5

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

Strategic Priority 3 – Economic Opportunity

Goal 3.4 – Collaborate with key partners to implement policies and programs that promote local business growth and ensure equitable opportunities for all.

Cross-Cutting Threads



Community Trust



Fiscal Responsibility



Sustainability & Resiliency



Equity



Innovation



6

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6

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council:

1. Approve the proposed American Rescue Plan Act Subrecipient Professional Consultant Services Agreement with Community Connect for \$779,948.05 of American Rescue Plan Act Funds to administer a City of Riverside small and micro-business COVID recovery grant program; and
2. Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute the American Rescue Plan Act Subrecipient Professional Consultant Services Agreement with Community Connect, including making minor and non-substantive changes to complete the transaction.



7

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