

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER


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Council File No. 15-0620

Council District: Citywide

To: The Mayor
The Council

From: Miguel A. Santana, City Administrative Officer 

Reference: Housing and Community Investment Department Transmittal dated May 15, 2015;
Received by the City Administrative Officer on May 22, 2015

Subject: **REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN A SUBCONTRACT FOR THE
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC) GRANT FOR
CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION**

SUMMARY

In its transmittal dated May 15, 2015, the Housing and Community Investment Department (HCID) requests approval to sign Subcontract Number 2416-HCIDLA-14-15 with Impact Assessment, Inc. (IAI) for the purpose of reducing the number of children exposed to lead and the number of housing units that contribute to lead poisoning within the City of Los Angeles. Under the terms of the Subcontract, HCID will act as co-Program Director and will provide general oversight and administration of the program. Funds will be used to pay for a portion of three existing HCID staff salaries. The amount payable to HCID will not exceed \$25,000 including related costs and will be paid by IAI through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The term of the Subcontract will be from February 6, 2015, through September 30, 2015, with an option for two additional one-year renewals. The amount of funding will be provided through IAI from the CDC grant and will be negotiated each year between HCID and IAI. This Office concurs with the Department's request to enter into the Subcontract with IAI.

BACKGROUND

On July 3, 2014, the National Center for Environmental Health at the CDC issued a Funding Opportunity Announcement for the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program to fund cooperative agreements with agencies to use lead poisoning surveillance data to identify the highest risk areas and to target appropriate population-based prevention interventions wherever needs are identified. Because of HCID's previous work with community-based healthy homes advocates, IAI approached the Department asking to partner on a grant application to the CDC. Acting as a bona fide agent for the HCID, IAI applied for and was awarded a three-year cooperative agreement with the CDC. The annual amount awarded from the CDC to the IAI is \$304,672, for a total amount awarded of \$914,016, with a period of performance of September 30, 2014, through September 30, 2017.

The HCID reports that lead is highly toxic, especially to young children. It can harm a child's brain, kidneys, bone marrow, and other body systems. A large body of evidence shows that the most common source of lead exposure for children today is lead paint in older housing and the contaminated dust and soil it generates. Despite a 1978 ban on the use of lead in new paint, lead poisoning has remained a persistent health problem in California, particularly in lower income neighborhoods. In 2012, California had the fourth largest number of confirmed blood lead levels (BLLs) above 10 µg/dL (milligrams per deciliter) in the US, accounting for more than seven percent of the national total. Since 1990, more than 10,000 children in the City of Los Angeles have been poisoned by lead-based paint.

Since passage of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, the City's housing agencies, the HCID and the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA), have incorporated regulations and subsequent amendments into housing rehabilitation programs. For 18 years, the City of Los Angeles has received lead hazard remediation grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) working in collaboration with local community-based organizations (CBOs) to conduct outreach visits to inform tenants and property owners about lead hazards, and to make homes lead-safe.

The HCID's Systematic Code Enforcement Program (SCEP), established in 1998, inspects more than 190,000 rental units per year and cite lead hazards such as peeling paint in pre-1978 buildings. Since 2003, SCEP staff and HCID's Lead Hazard Remediation Program have worked closely with the Healthy Homes Collaborative (HHC), a coalition of community-based organizations and other agencies, to implement the Lead Poisoning Prevention Pilot Program. The program supports City enforcement in rental housing of state law mandating lead-safe work practices, which requires that any repairs or remodeling that may disturb painted surfaces in pre-1978 residential properties (e.g. opening up walls for plumbing or electrical repairs, replacing windows) be conducted in a way to minimize lead dust and prevent lead hazards from harming the residents or the workers.

The Grant Partners

The IAI has served as a contractor to the California Department of Public Health for 20 years. IAI designed, developed, and deployed a statewide surveillance and case management system to support statewide efforts to monitor trends in blood lead testing and manage lead burdened children throughout the state.

The HHC is a Los Angeles-based non-profit with over twenty years of experience collaborating with CBOs and federally qualified health centers to ensure lead poisoning prevention activities take place in high-risk neighborhoods. The HHC designs and implements education and outreach strategies in a manner that is culturally competent and executed through members of the community, such as health promoters and organizers employed by the CBOs.

The Los Angeles County Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) within the County Department of Public Health (DPH) was established in 1991 to develop and enact a standard of care for identifying and managing children with elevated BLLs. The program offers

case management, lead screenings, environmental investigations, surveillance, health care provider training, and health education. These services are provided to all children who meet state-case defined levels and children and non-occupationally exposed adults with blood lead levels greater than or equal to 10 µg/dL.

The Grant Activities

This CDC project is focused on communities that have not benefitted from previous community education and outreach, specifically low-income, limited-English, non-Spanish speaking residents, many of whom live in the neighborhoods comprising the Los Angeles Promise Zone (LAPZ), which includes parts of the Hollywood, East Hollywood, Koreatown, Pico Union, and Westlake communities. The LAPZ is a geographic area designated by the White House and HUD in 2014 as part of an initiative to encourage cities to leverage local resources and partnerships with private, public and non-profit organizations to lift communities out of poverty. The grant application for this project was submitted to the CDC after the most recent HCID application to HUD for lead hazard remediation funds was written. The HUD grant application received bonus points due to its commitment to expend significant educational and lead remediation resources within the boundaries of the LAPZ. The program's success will be a direct outcome of bringing together the resources, expertise, and leverage of IAI, HCID, HHC, CLPPP and the CDC.

Since 2003, the CLPPP has focused on the oldest, lowest-income highest-need communities in the City, providing education and outreach to residents and owners of properties that have had multiple code violations, which present the highest lead-poisoning risks to young children. No educational materials about lead hazards have been developed for other limited-English groups such as Korean-speaking tenants, owners, maintenance-remodeling contractors, or for Mayan-dialect-speaking residents in Los Angeles or anywhere else in the United States. Those populations and other low-income linguistically-isolated communities reside in or near the LAPZ. The CDC grant will fund the development of culturally and linguistically appropriate educational materials to serve residents, property owners, building contractors and workers of these communities. This project also aims to ensure that all at-risk children are tested for elevated BLLs, residents and property owners are aware of lead hazards and maintenance/remodeling contractors and their workers are aware of, and comply with, state law mandating lead-safe work practices and Environmental Protection Agency Renovation Repair and Painting regulations.

The Budget

The HCID's duties as co-Program Director include providing general oversight and administration of the program, supporting design and implementation of new housing and health enforcement strategies and revising an MOU with the Los Angeles County Lead Poisoning Prevention Program to enable sharing of housing-related data. The amount payable under this Subcontract shall not exceed \$25,000. The HCID budget for the proposed Lead Poisoning Prevention Program includes salaries, fringe benefits and related costs for the following existing HCID positions:

Position	Estimated Hours	Salary Rate (Per Hour)	Salaries Grant Funded
Sr. Housing Planning and Economic Analyst	117	63.06	\$ 7,378
Sr. Systems Analyst	90	56.08	5,047
Programmer Analyst III	110	37.58	4,134
Total Direct Labor Cost			\$ 16,559

Fringe Benefits	Rate (%)	Base Salary	Benefits Grant Funded
Sr. Housing Planning and Economic Analyst	28.73%	\$7,378	\$ 2,120
Sr. Systems Analyst	28.73%	\$5,047	1,450
Programmer Analyst III	28.73%	\$4,134	1,187
Total Fringe Benefits			\$ 4,757

Indirect Costs	Rate (%)	Base Salary	Total Indirect Costs Grant Funded
Admin Staff	22.23%	\$16,559	\$3,684

Total Salaries: \$16,559

Total Fringe Benefits and Indirect Costs (Related Costs): \$8,441

Total Budget: \$25,000

This Office concurs with the Department's request for approval to sign the Subcontract agreement with Impact Assessment, Inc. and approve Controller's instructions to establish accounts to receive reimbursements from CDC grant funds. A copy of the HCID transmittal, along with the Subcontract, has been forwarded to the City Attorney for concurrent review and approval as to form.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. Authorize the General Manager of the Housing and Community Investment Department (HCID) or designee, to:
 - a. Sign Subcontract Number 2416-HCIDLA-14-15 with Impact Assessment Inc. (IAI) for the period of February 6, 2015, through September 29, 2015, with two additional

one-year renewal options, for the purpose of reducing the number of children exposed to lead and the number of housing units that contribute to lead poisoning within the City of Los Angeles, subject to the review and approval as to form by the City Attorney, compliance with the City's contracting requirements, and funding availability;

- b. Prepare Controller instructions for any necessary technical adjustments consistent with the Mayor and Council actions on this matter, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer, and authorize the Controller to implement these instructions;
2. Instruct the City Clerk to place on calendar on the first available meeting date after July 1, 2015, or soon thereafter, the following recommendations:

- a. Establish new accounts within Fund No. 49N and appropriate as follows:

Account	Title	Amount
43M143	HCID	\$ 16,559
43M299	Reimbursements to General Fund	8,441
	Total	\$ 25,000

- b. Appropriate \$16,559 within Fund 100/43 Account 1010 Salaries; and
3. Authorize the Controller to establish a receivable within Fund No. 49N Small Grants and Awards in the amount of \$25,000 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention passed through IAI.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

There will be a positive impact on the General Fund. Up to \$25,000 from a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will be passed through Impact Assessment, Inc. to the Housing and Community Investment Department including funds to reimburse the General Fund for Related Costs. The recommendations in this report are in compliance with the City's Financial Policies in that the program costs will be paid for by federal grant funds.