

September 3, 2019

Re: Council File 19-0914 – Communication from Chrysalis

Dear Councilmember O’Farrell and Homelessness & Poverty Committee Members:

We are writing to weigh in as the City considers funding allocations under the State of California’s Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAPP) program. **Chrysalis is requesting consideration for using HHAPP funding for a pilot project now being considered by the City Council** called “Clean Streets Initiative / Homeless Individuals / Litter Cleanup / Public Right-of-Way / Pilot Program” (**Council File 17-1121**).

Chrysalis has been named in the pilot motion (Council File 17-1121) as the nonprofit service provider uniquely situated to implement the proposed project. We appreciate being considered in this capacity and **we stand ready to successfully work with the City to launch this critically-important pilot**. Founded in 1984, Chrysalis is a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating a pathway to self-sufficiency for homeless and low-income individuals by providing the resources and support needed to find and retain employment. Established in 1991, Chrysalis Enterprises provides **an evidence-based transitional jobs program** for clients who have the greatest barriers to employment. Through this social enterprise, our clients have the opportunity to gain real-world skills, build confidence, and develop the experience needed to find and retain long-term employment.

If approved, the pilot program would involve Chrysalis contracting with Los Angeles Sanitation & Environment (**LASAN**) to provide paid transitional job opportunities and critical supportive services to **300 individuals currently, or formerly, experiencing homelessness** in Los Angeles. The proposed pilot would fund six (6) crews of about 5 transitional workers each led by a supervisor.

The goal of the program, in addition to cleaning City sidewalks, curbs and alleyways, is to assist participants in securing full-time, competitive employment, which would enable them to get on **a pathway to self-sufficiency**. Chrysalis’ transitional employment program model serving individuals with barriers to reentering the mainstream workforce would be utilized in the pilot, allowing 300 individuals to have the opportunity to have the dignity of work while receiving a wide range of support services and resources to assist them in securing employment in the mainstream job market and helping them get back on their feet.

Chrysalis has **a proven track record** of successfully partnering with the City of Los Angeles. Currently, Chrysalis crews operate at each of the LASAN yards while managing the City of LA’s “Regional Unattended Property Storage” program. Chrysalis partners with the Mayor’s Office of Reentry’s New Roads to Second Chances program, a partnership with Caltrans. In addition, Chrysalis currently manages contracts with the City of LA’s Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD). Under the proposed pilot, Chrysalis would

operate the program in close coordination with EWDD, including the LA:RISE, Targeted Local Hire, and Metro's WIN-LA programs/initiatives.

On behalf of the individuals we serve – in particular those who are experiencing homelessness and attempting to secure employment and housing – ***we urge you to consider allocation of HHAPP funding for the Clean Streets Loose Litter pilot program (Council File 17-1121).***

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Loranger', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Loranger
President & CEO

Cc: Committee Clerk – Eric Villanueva, eric.villanueva@lacity.org