



TO: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
FROM: Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant to City Manager and Director, Neighborhood and Community Services *Daniel E. Duncan on behalf of NCH*
COPY: City Council, City Clerk and Pamela Duncan, Human Services Division Manager
SUBJECT: Resolution to Approve a Contract Amendment for Positive Interactions program – December 15, 2015
DATE: November 24, 2015

SUMMARY:

A resolution authorizing the execution of an amendment to an agreement with Comprehensive Life Resources, increasing the total contract amount from \$1,058,108 to \$1,179,828.00, budgeted from the Mental Health Substance Use Disorder fund, for the purpose of expanding capacity of the Positive Interactions program, for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2016.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

- A safe, clean and attractive community.
- Strengthen and support public safety, human services, public education, and diverse higher learning opportunities in Tacoma.
- Encourage and promote an open, effective and results-oriented organization.

BACKGROUND:

In February 2015, Council authorized the execution of a contract with Comprehensive Life Resources in the amount of \$1,058,108, funded by Mental Health Substance Use Disorder (MHSUD) dollars, to operate programs that met policy goals and objectives identified in the MHSUD Implementation Plan. Positive Interactions is one of the programs that falls under that contract and directly meets the intent of City's policy goals. As stated in the Background section (2.0) of the Implementation Plan, "Services would be directed toward individuals with chemical dependency and/or mental health issues who currently have a disproportionate impact on the livability and business atmosphere for the City of Tacoma." The impact further called out "homelessness with concomitant issues of aggressive panhandling, outdoor waste, public intoxication, drug activity, and disproportionate burden on local businesses and their patrons." The Positive Interactions program was created as a direct response to address these issues. The program offers assistance to businesses throughout the City that are impacted by encampments and loitering from individuals struggling with homelessness, mental illness and/or substance use disorders. Businesses that call for assistance are provided with a quick and tailored response to address the needs of both the business and the individuals experiencing homelessness.

ISSUE:

The City underestimated the need for the Positive Interactions program. It is in such high demand that it is necessary to expand staff hours to ensure coverage on weekends. In addition, the cost of business and encampment clean-ups is much higher than originally anticipated. There is a need for increased financial support in order to maintain high performance levels. The original allocation for this program in 2015-16 was \$280,000. Neighborhood and Community Services is requesting an increase of \$121,720.00 in the contracted amount for this program to cover the costs of increased staffing, clean-ups, and advertising.



ALTERNATIVES:

The City could wait until the end of the biennium to address this issue, resulting in the probability that no clean-ups can be done in 2016. This would weaken the City's fidelity to the Implementation Plan and reduce the confidence of businesses that the .1% MHSUD tax is, in fact, working to address needs that impact their livelihood. It could potentially result in the perception that the tax is a burden to businesses instead of a benefit.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that Council approve a contract amendment in the amount of \$121,720.00. This would add \$20,000.00 to community clean-ups (bringing the total community clean-up investment to \$42,500.00 for the biennium); \$8,629.75 in indirect administrative fees, \$7,879.25 for the early start of November 15, 2015 for increased staff coverage, \$2,800.00 for promotional magnets for businesses, \$19,377.00 to ensure staff retention and promotion, \$9,724.00 for 24/7 on-call employee phone response, \$4,000.00 for operational expenses, and \$49,310.00 for personnel costs to expand staff by 1 FTE that includes weekend coverage beginning November 15, 2015 through December 31, 2016. The need for emergency beds will be met by the City's investment in the Park Place Diversion Beds program, which is funded under the same contract.



FISCAL IMPACT:

EXPENDITURES:

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME *	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
1185-MHSUD	858300	5330100	\$121,720
TOTAL			\$121,720

* General Fund: Include Department

REVENUES:

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
1185-MHSUD	858300	4313250	\$121,720
TOTAL			\$121,720

POTENTIAL POSITION IMPACT:

POSITION TITLE	PERMANENT/ PROJECT TEMPORARY POSITION	FTE IMPACT	POSITION END DATE
N/A			
TOTAL			

FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET: \$121,720

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? No

IF EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED.

The City is redirecting unexpended revenue from the Mental Health Substance Use Disorder Fund that was budgeted for contracts with two other programs: 1) Mentor House (\$105,000) and 2) MDC Housing First Risk Reduction Fund (\$40,000). Mentor House was unable to fulfill requirements sufficient to allow execution of the contract. MDC's Housing First Risk Reduction allocation was reduced to \$20,000 to accommodate the execution of a single-year (rather than two-year) contract. As a result, \$125,000 is available to cover the increase needed for the Positive Interactions program.