

MEMO TO: Parks and Human Services Committee of the Whole Meeting

FROM: Brooke Buckingham, Senior Planner

DATE: June 2, 2020

SUBJECT: Human Service 2021-2022 Application Process

I. <u>PURPOSE</u> ⊠ For Info Only □ Potential Agenda Item □ Scheduled for Council Action

II. <u>RECOMMENDATION</u>

Share results of the human services funding application process.

III. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Carol Helland, Director

Beverly Mesa-Zendt, Human Services Manager

Brooke Buckingham, Senior Human Services Planner

Planning and Community Development

425-556-2423

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IV. DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND

Background

Every other year the City accepts proposals from human services non-profit service providers seeking funding for the upcoming biennium. The Human Services Commission is charged with the task of evaluating applications and making their funding recommendations to City Council.

Redmond participates along with 15 other cities in North, East and South King County in a joint online funding application. This allows organizations interested in requesting funding support from any of the participating cities to complete a single application. In order to allow agencies more time to respond to the impact of COVID-19, cities also extended the application deadline by one month.

This year, East King County cities made a concerted effort to address issues of equity to ensure that first-time and/or community led organizations were able to successfully apply. This included:

- Streamlining and simplifying the application questions.
- Eliminating up-front data requirements (e.g. detailed demographic spreadsheets) in lieu of commitment from applicants to meet requirements at the time of contracting.

- Contracting with <u>Communities Rise</u> to provide hands-on technical assistance to grassroots organizations serving traditionally marginalized communities.
- Providing more robust in person and online training resources, with a clear and consolidated list of minimum requirements that cities have in order to be considered for funding (e.g. insurance requirements).
- Offering three virtual equity trainings by expert consultant to support Human Services Commissions in their review of applications with guiding principles i.e "invest in organizations whose staff and leadership reflect the communities they serve. They know better than anyone the unique lived experiences, strengths and barriers that their communities face."

Ninety-one applications were submitted to Redmond, with requests totaling almost \$2.7M per year. Based on the City's long-standing per capita formula, staff is projecting an allocation of approximately \$1.3M per year. In addition, staff anticipates receiving approximately \$37,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, which may be used for human services. The total amount requested is almost two times more than what is available.

V. TIME CONSTRAINTS

The Commission will review proposals this summer and present their recommendation to Council at a Joint Study Session on October 27, 2020. Recommendations are expected to be adopted as part of the City's overall budget.

VI. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: List of applicants and requested amounts