

CITY OF SANTA ROSA  
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
FROM: JOHN CREGAN, CAPTAIN  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
SUBJECT: WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BID AND APPROVAL OF TWO  
AGREEMENTS FOR THE CITY'S INRESPONSE PROGRAM  
WITH CATHOLIC CHARITIES AND BUCKELEW PROGRAMS

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

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RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Police Department that the Council, by two resolutions, waive competitive bidding pursuant to Section 3-08.100(D) of the City Code and approve authorization for the City Manager or designee to negotiate and execute two agreements, collectively with a total not-to-exceed amount of \$1,473,749, with Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa and Buckelew Programs, which are local non-profit agencies that will assist the City with INRESPONSE program implementation.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In partnership with community members, local non-profits, and many other stakeholders, the Police Department worked to develop a comprehensive program to address non-violent responses to mental health crises and homeless-related incidents, which will divert these non-violent calls from the Police Department to this new program. This program, titled inRESPONSE, requires an agreement with our local non-profit partners, Buckelew Programs and Catholic Charities, and is planned to launch in November 2021.

BACKGROUND

The Police Department contracted with White Bird Clinic, a non-profit organization that runs the Crisis Assistance Helping out on the Streets (CAHOOTS) program in Eugene, Oregon in 2020. With their expertise the department worked with local stakeholders, community members, and our local non-profits to create this comprehensive program which will include a mental health clinician, Fire Department paramedic and homeless outreach specialist who will respond to homeless related incidents and non-violent mental health crises to provide resources and support. This upstream approach is geared toward proactive identification of people at risk of crisis and will provide case management and services to prevent life changing/altering situations.

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The concept of the inRESPONSE program was first presented to the Public Safety Subcommittee (PSS) in August 2020. The PSS provided support and feedback to the department to move forward with the development of this program for the City of Santa Rosa. During the budget sessions for this fiscal year the City Council supported this program in full and provided one-time funding of \$1.1 million for the first year's pilot program.

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

None.

ANALYSIS

The CAHOOTS model has become a standard for cities across the United States and the City of Santa Rosa is ready to implement a one-year pilot program. It is anticipated that this team will reduce the calls for service to both the Police Department and the Fire Department by approximately 5%. The inRESPONSE program will provide a higher level of service to the community in need, but it is unknown the actual measurable impacts this will have. It is critical to implement this one-year pilot program and evaluate the positive impacts during this period.

Staff intends to use City standard agreement templates with Buckelew Programs and Catholic Charities, examples of which are included with each resolution. A draft program description and scope of work are also included with this staff report, which staff will work to refine with vendors in coordination with the City Attorney's Office as the agreements are finalized in advance of initiation of program work.

FISCAL IMPACT

Approval of this action does not have any additional fiscal impact on the General Fund or any Enterprise Funds. Funding has been approved in the current budget for the Police Department.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is not a project which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

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NOTIFICATION

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

- Resolution 1/Exhibit A - Agreement with Buckelew Programs
- Resolution 2/Exhibit B - Agreement with Catholic Charities

CONTACT

Pam Lorence, ASO, [plorence@srcity.org](mailto:plorence@srcity.org), 707-543-3577