



Agenda

FINANCE COMMITTEE
January 23, 2023
8:30 A.M.

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:
<https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/6161369562?pwd=Zit5Tm15WU1EN1phOVICSm0yeUx5Zz09>

Or Telephone:
USA (214) 765-0478
USA Toll Free (888) 278-0254
Conference code: 894519

To slow the spread of COVID-19, in lieu of a public gathering, the meeting will be accessible via Zoom to all members of the public as permitted by Government Code section 54953(e).

Supervisor John Gioia, Chair
Supervisor Federal Glover, Vice Chair

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

1. Introductions
2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to three minutes).
3. PROVIDE direction to the County Administrator on where to source volunteers to serve on the Innovation Fund Review Panel. *(Julie Enea, County Administrator's Office)*
4. The next meeting is currently scheduled for February 6, 2023.
5. Adjourn

The Finance Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend Finance Committee meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting.

Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Finance Committee less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 1025 Escobar St., 4th Floor, Martinez, during normal business hours.

Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

For Additional Information Contact:

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Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Subcommittee Report

FINANCE COMMITTEE - SPECIAL

3.

Meeting Date: 01/23/2023
Subject: INNOVATION FUND REVIEW PANEL
Submitted For: Monica Nino, County Administrator
Department: County Administrator
Referral No.:
Referral Name:

Presenter: Julie Enea, Sr. Deputy CAO **Contact:** Julie Enea (925) 655-2056

Referral History:

On November 3, 2020, voters in Contra Costa County approved Measure X, a countywide, 20-year, half-cent sales tax. The ballot measure language stated the intent of Measure X as “to keep Contra Costa’s regional hospital open and staffed; fund community health centers, emergency response; support crucial safety-net services; invest in early childhood services; protect vulnerable populations; and for other essential county services.”

The Measure X Community Advisory Board (MxCAB), established on February 2, 2021 to advise the Board of Supervisors on the use of Measure X funds, recommended among many other items a one-time allocation of \$2 million to establish an Innovation Fund to seed pilot programs and innovative projects. The recommendation included allocating these funds to the County Administrator’s Office for development of Innovation Fund guidelines, which the Finance Committee refined and the Board of Supervisors approved on October 18, while also directing that this Innovation Fund be made available to only to community-based organizations in response to local service needs. The Board of Supervisors, on October 18, also approved guiding principles distinguishing innovation projects from general application of best practices; quality standards for Innovation Fund proposals; program categories; eligibility requirements; a two-phase process and a general implementation schedule, all of which are attached for reference; and directed the County Administrator to seek input of the Finance Committee regarding composition of the Innovation Fund Review Panel.

The County Administrator's Office contemplates a bid process modeled on similar County competitive grant programs such as the Keller Mitigation Fund Program and the Commercial Cannabis land use permit selection process. These programs utilized an internal review committee assembled at the discretion of a County lead department to solicit and evaluate proposals and make funding recommendations to the Board of Supervisors at a regular public meeting. The MxCAB and the Board of Supervisors designated the County Administrator's Office as the lead department to administer the Innovation Fund program. A review committee assembled by the County Administrator would likely be composed of a combination of 5 to 7 current or retired County staff and community representatives deemed expert in the service areas and target populations proposed by grant applicants.

Referral Update:

The County Administrator initiated Phase I of the Innovation Fund process with the November 1, 2022 issuance of a request for Statements of Qualifications (SoQs) and Concept Papers. Notification of this opportunity was made to the media, on LinkedIn, to chambers of commerce, to Board of Supervisors offices, County departments that contract with community-based organizations, community-based organization collaboratives, and to mailing lists previously compiled through census and other County grant programs. Of the 15 applications received, 14 are California registered nonprofit organizations and are likely eligible. Only 5 of the 14 California nonprofit applicants submitted evidence that they are tax-exempt; additional evidence will be required before the other 9 applicants will be considered. This evidence will be sought when Phase I interviews are scheduled. The potentially eligible proposals generally fall into the following service areas:

- 3 relating to mental health/substance abuse and living skills counseling and substance abuse treatment;
- 4 relating to hubs/connections to myriad public services, e.g., financial literacy, legal, education, career

- development, family resources, health and social services;
- 3 relating to access to healthy food;
- 1 relating to transitional housing development;
- 1 relating to job training and readiness;
- 1 relating to closing the digital divide; and
- 1 relating to small business support and development.

The County Administrator seeks the input of the Board's Finance Committee regarding sourcing of volunteers to serve on the Innovation Fund Review Panel. The role of the Review Panel will be to review the eligible proposals, receive presentations on each of the proposals, and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for Phase 1 planning grants of \$5,000, the purpose of which are to fund the preparation of comprehensive grant applications for up to \$1.95M in Innovation Funds that will be considered in Phase 2. The Review Panel will also evaluate the comprehensive Phase 2 grant applications and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on award of Innovation Funds. It is anticipated that serving on the Review Panel will require approximately 12 hours to review Phase 1 and Phase 2 applications and approximately 12 hours of interview time between both phases, so approximately a 24-36 hour time commitment over the two phases. Phase 1 work would likely occur in late February and Phase 2 evaluations would likely occur in June.

The Review Panel will ideally be composed of 5 to 7 individuals with knowledge in one or more of the service areas being proposed but having no affiliation with any of the proposers. At the October 18 Board of Supervisors meeting, the County Administrator was directed to include representatives from the Leshner and Zellerbach Foundations on the Review Panel, as well as representatives from community-based organizations. The Finance Committee might also consider current or retired County staff with subject matter knowledge as either panelists or technical advisors to the Review Panel, particularly to identify any proposed services that are currently already provided by or fall under the auspices of County departments.

Recommendation(s)/Next Step(s):

PROVIDE direction to the County Administrator on where to source volunteers to serve on the Innovation Fund Review Panel.

Fiscal Impact (if any):

No fiscal impact anticipated.

Attachments

SOQ Innovation Fund
