

June 11, 2024

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation to authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute an agreement, and all necessary documents, subcontracts, or subsequent amendments, including amendments to the award amount, with the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (CCDEH) to receive and expend grant funding in the amount of \$88,598 for the Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operation (MEHKO) program for the period of June 30, 2024, through May 31, 2025; and,

Increase appropriations in the Health Fund Group in the Health and Human Services Department by \$88,598, offset by grant revenue. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

In September 2018, Assembly Bill (AB) 626 amended the California Health and Safety Code to include Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operation (MEHKO) within the definition of a food facility. This bill defines a microenterprise home kitchen operation as a food facility operated by a resident in their private home. Under the new regulations, cities or counties are granted full discretion to authorize, by ordinance or resolution, the permitting of MEHKOs in their jurisdiction in accordance with the provisions of the California Health and Safety Code.

In June 2023, the State of California appropriated funding under AB 178 to assist local health departments to implement programs relating to MEHKOs. The grant program is being administered by the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (CCDEH) under the direction of California Workforce Development Board (WDB) and includes funding to local environmental health departments in jurisdictions considering a MEHKO ordinance or resolution. In February 2024, the City of Long Beach, Health and Human Services Department (Department), was awarded \$88,598 for direct support to study the implementation of the MEHKO program in Long Beach.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Anita Lakhani on May 22, 2024 and by Revenue Management Officer Geraldine Alejo on May 17, 2024.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action to receive and expend funding is requested on June 11, 2024, as the CCDEH is requesting that the agreement be expedited prior to the beginning of the grant term on June 30, 2024.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City will receive grant funding in the amount of \$88,598, which will offset expenditures related to the MEHKO program for the period of June 30, 2024, to May 31, 2025. An appropriation increase of \$88,598 is requested in the Health Fund Group in the Health and Human Services Department, offset by grant revenues. No match or in-kind service mandate is required. Any indirect costs that might not ultimately be eligible for grant funds will be funded by the Health Operating Fund, General Fund, or other eligible funds. This recommendation has no staffing impact beyond the normal budgeted scope of duties and is consistent with existing City Council priorities. There is no local job impact associated with this recommendation.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



Alison King
Director
Health and Human Services

APPROVED:



THOMAS B. MODICA
CITY MANAGER