

MOTION

The City of Los Angeles created the Basic Income Guaranteed: Los Angeles Economic Assistance Pilot (BIG:LEAP) program in 2021 as one of the largest guaranteed income demonstration projects in the United States. In January 2022, after extensive planning with the Community Investment for Families Department (CIFD) and a robust application process, BIG:LEAP began dispersing unconditional, regular, and direct cash payments of \$1,000 per month for 12 months to roughly 3,200 of Los Angeles' highest need families. Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) programs are founded upon the philosophy that people enduring financial instability or poverty are best positioned to make informed financial decisions that efficiently address their household's needs. Innovative programs like BIG:LEAP provide the City an opportunity to support Angelenos in need, while informing future policy and programs for the City at-large.

On July 25, 2022, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) released a Request for Application (RFA) for a State Guaranteed Income Pilot Program. The state's application scoring process will be preferential toward applicants that focus their eligibility criteria on youth aging out of foster care and/or pregnant California residents. Currently, the City provides support services to these populations through programs such as the Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking emergency shelters and transitional housing. In addition, Angelenos accessing these services have additional barriers to regaining financial stability. Through this grant opportunity from the State, the City has an opportunity to expand resources and support for survivors and add to the body of research regarding the impact of guaranteed income. With wrap-around supportive services, such as housing, case management and financial counseling, guaranteed income has the potential of significantly changing the trajectory of a survivor's life, and the future of their children.

The Community Investment for Families Department (CIFD) has identified the CDSS grant as a valuable source of funding to support the City's mandate to alleviate family and childhood poverty in the City by 2035 (CF #22-0041). The State Guaranteed Income Pilot Program allows applicants to apply for up to \$5 million; for the preparation, adoption, and implementation for a project duration of 3 years, and requires a 50% local match. Applications to the State Guaranteed Income Pilot Program are due to CDSS by September 6, 2022.

I THEREFORE MOVE, that the City Council authorize the General Manager of CIFD, or their designee, to apply and accept a grant in an amount up to \$5,000,000 under the State Guaranteed Income Pilot Program through the California Department of Social Services, and to negotiate, execute, and submit the new grant agreement with CDSS, including all certifications and other required documents.

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I FURTHER MOVE that the Council instruct the City Administrative Officer to identify funding in the amount of \$1.5M in FY 2023-2024 and \$1M in FY 2024-2025 to support the local, required match.

I FURTHER MOVE that CIFD report back upon notice of the award to present the grant agreement and provide details on program design, staffing needs, Controller's instructions, and other relevant information for review and approval.

PRESENTED BY: 

CURREN D. PRICE, JR.
Councilmember, 9th District

SECONDED BY: 

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