

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date: June 5, 2023

CAO File No 0220-06110-0000
Council File No. 21-1015
Council District: ALL

To: The Los Angeles City Council

From: Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer

Subject: **FEDERAL AND STATE GRANT APPLICATIONS: BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, CLIMATE EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION OFFICE - COMMUNITY RESILIENCE CENTERS IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. Authorize the Board of Public Works (Board), Director of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office (CEMO), and/or their designees, to prepare the grant application for the proposal as outlined in Attachment 1 for the Community Resilience Centers Implementation Program; and,
2. Instruct the Board, CEMO, or designees, if awarded, to report back to request authority to accept the grant award and confirm that there is no additional General Fund fiscal impact.

SUMMARY

On October 12, 2021, Council adopted a Motion (Krekorian – Blumenfield - O’Farrell – Martinez - Harris-Dawson – Price – Cedillo) instructing the Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO) to establish a process to review and prioritize applications for federal and state grant infrastructure funding opportunities. On March 9, 2022, the Council approved the CAO and Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) proposed internal review process. The process integrates the City’s current grant application process for projects in response to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (federal) and California Comeback Plan (state) related grant opportunities with the Capital and Technology Improvement Policy prioritization guidelines (C.F. 21-1015).

This CAO report provides a summary of a state grant opportunity for which the Board of Public Works, Climate Emergency Mobilization Office (CEMO), has reported an interest in applying (Attachment 1). Our Office reviewed the request based on the CAO approved review process and guidelines *and* recommend approval of the application. The state opportunity detailed in the attachment is related to the following state program:

- California Strategic Growth Council: CA4116A Community Resilience Centers Program (CRC)
 - Application Deadline: September 5, 2023
 - Grant Performance Period: 1 year after project completion

CEMO Mandate - CEMO has been mandated by the City Council to advise the Bureau of Engineering on City Building Decarbonization and to work with the Emergency Management Department on an equitable Cooling Center/Resilience Hub Plan. Using data from the City of LA Equity Index (which integrates CalEnviroscreen) and the UCLA Heat Risk Map, CEMO targeted and identified the top 10% of the areas/zones in the City with the highest mortality and hospitalization rates from extreme heat, which are defined as super Disadvantaged Communities. CEMO then integrated the Federal Scorecard to ensure the City is addressing communities of highest needs, and identified three libraries (Alma Reaves Woods - Watts Branch Library, Wilmington Branch Library, and Hyde Park Miriam Matthews Branch Library) in Los Angeles.

CEMO Potential Grant Project: The requested funds are to be used on the design, development and implementation of Resiliency Hubs in the most vulnerable areas of the City. Funds will be used to retrofit the libraries / Resiliency Centers and to work with community based organizations such as the LEAP LA Coalition to train Community Health Educators on extreme heat and climate resiliency. One of CEMO's multiple components of the project will be to develop curriculum and work with Community Based Organizations to do outreach with Community Health Educators (CHEs) for these target areas via environmental justice-focused, community-based, and social service organizations (providing contracts to hire local health organizers and educators). CEMO will also work with CORE and the American Red Cross and their own network of CHEs, so as to connect with harder-to-reach constituents to elevate their needs and voices in the implementation process.

The specific grant opportunity meets the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) requirements.

Matching Fund Requirements - In accordance with the Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 14.6, departments may submit applications without Mayor and Council approval if no City General Funds, matching funds, or other commitments of City resources are required. This CRC grant will not require matching funds.

Expedited Review - In accordance with Los Angeles City Administrative Code 14.6(a) prior Mayor and Council approval may also be waived when the NOFA is published less than 61 days in advance of the date of application. CEMO is required to provide this notice as the NOFA was provided with more than 61 days notice. The application due date is September 5, 2023.

Required Approval to Accept Award - In accordance with the above administrative code section, all departments are required to seek Mayor and Council approval before accepting and receiving a grant award. It is therefore recommended that CEMO report to the Mayor and Council upon award notification in order to request authority to accept and receive the grant award and confirm that there is no additional General Fund impact.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Approval of the recommendations in this report will not result in a General Fund impact. Upon notification of grant award, if the City is awarded, a reassessment on the General Fund impact should be completed.

FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT

The recommendations in this report comply with the City's Financial Policies.

Attachment 1 - Grant Programs Without Match Requirements

cc: CAO Grant Coordinator

MWS/PJH/JVW/amm: 10230182

UPDATED ATTACHMENT 1 – GRANT PROGRAMS WITHOUT MATCH REQUIREMENT

Community Resilience Centers (CRC) Program - FY 2023

California Strategic Growth Council

NOFA Release Date: May 26, 2023

Due: September 5, 2023

Performance Period: One year from project completion

No Match Requirement

Lead Department	(CD) Project Name	Project Description	Total Project Budget (in millions)	Total Grant Request (in millions)	Planned Completion Date
BPW / CEMO	(All) Heat Resilience Zones & Equity-focused Resilience Hubs: Los Angeles	This project will identify, design, and invest in Heat Resilient Zones to reduce climate risks from extreme heat through a multi-pronged approach. The first step will be to identify both the most heat impacted and pollution-burdened areas in the City of Los Angeles via Arc-GIS mapping and data from the UCLA Heat Risk Map, along with other metrics, and the second step will be to design an equity-focused network of Resilience Hubs in these heat-vulnerable areas wherein relevant Resilience Hubs are prioritized at City libraries (and other suitable City buildings). We will also consider additional programmatic outreach (such as offering pop-up cooling stations) in areas of highest heat risk that lack these services, and identify and assess public-facing City services such as senior centers, Peace and Healing Centers, and Family Resource Centers to add as future enhancements and additions to Heat Resilient Zones. The selected libraries likely will require retrofits or other infrastructure improvements to be converted into cooling centers/resilience hubs for these communities. The third component will be to develop curriculum and work with Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to do outreach with Community Health Educators (CHEs) for these target areas via environmental justice-focused, community-based and social service organizations (providing contracts to hire local health organizers and educators), as well as with CORE and the American Red Cross and their own network of CHEs, so as to connect with harder-to-reach constituents to elevate their needs and voices in the implementation process. Finally, this project will enhance resources within these communities not only to strengthen these areas locally, but the whole of the City. Overall, this project will align with the Federal Justice40 initiative, with AB 211 recommendations from the Governor's Office at the State level, and local ordinances and policies, and will focus investment and development in historically disinvested areas to build capacity for climate resilience and response, to elevate heat risk awareness, and to create outreach networks and resources to protect the most vulnerable from the impacts of rising temperatures.	\$10.0	\$10.0	3 years (11/2026)