

Resolution of the City of Jersey City, N.J.

File No. Res. 22-645
Agenda No. 10.11
Approved: Sep 08 2022



RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO A CDBG-CV AGREEMENT WITH THE WATERFRONT PROJECT, INC. FOR ADMINISTERING THE CITY'S LEGAL ADVOCACY COVID-19 RESPONSE PROGRAM UNDER THE PROGRAM YEAR APRIL 1, 2020 – MARCH 31, 2022

COUNCIL offered and moved adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States signed an emergency declaration concerning the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) to free up federal funds and other resources to help when "federal assistance is needed to supplement state and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety;" and

WHEREAS, on or about March 27, 2020, the President of the United States also signed into law the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act*, Public Law 116-136, (CARES Act) to facilitate the provision of federal assistance and relief in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the challenges faced by individuals and families of low-to-moderate income (LMI) and has caused them to experience many legal problems compounded by COVID-19, such as housing insecurity, eviction, and/or foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, many LMI individuals and families in Jersey City are continuing to struggle economically due to the ongoing impact of COVID-19 and cannot afford legal counsel to defend their rights, especially in landlord-tenant disputes; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council adopted Resolution No. 20-576 (Aug. 12, 2020) (CV-1) and Resolution No. 20-717 (Oct. 7, 2020) (CV-3) authorizing the City of Jersey City (City) to receive CARES Act funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and

WHEREAS, the City received Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CARES Act Coronavirus (CV) funding in two (2) allotments (CV1) and (CV2), from HUD. CDBG-CV1 was in the amount of \$3,438,019 and CDBG-CV3 was in the amount of \$3,136,493; and

WHEREAS, on September 15, 2021, the City entered into an Agreement with The Waterfront Project, Inc. (WFP) to administer the City's Legal Advocacy – COVID-19 Response Program; and

WHEREAS, the City's Legal Advocacy COVID-19 Response Program addresses the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on LMI residents of Jersey City at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) by providing legal services to help the City's most vulnerable residents achieve housing stability; and

WHEREAS, WFP is a legal services nonprofit and HUD-certified housing counseling agency that has been on the front lines working to help struggling families recover from the impact of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, WFP has been preventing the displacement of LMI residents from Jersey City through a combination of legal services, one-on-one housing counseling, comprehensive case management, emergency funding for low-income households, and community education; and

WHEREAS, as part of the City's Legal Advocacy COVID-19 Response Program, WFP will continue working in collaboration with the Jersey City Housing Authority (JCHA) and various nonprofit agencies which send WFP referrals; and

WHEREAS, WFP submitted a Proposal, dated May 12, 2022, attached hereto, seeking additional funding from the City's Division of Community Development (DCD) to address the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on LMI Jersey City residents; and

WHEREAS, the WFP is facing a dramatic increase in clients and, thus, needs the City's help to meet the need. The WFP is seeking \$100,000 in CDBG-CV funds to address COVID-19 related community needs; and

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WHEREAS, the DCD has reviewed WFP’s Proposal and recommends awarding WFP an additional \$100,000.00 in CDBG-CV funds. The DCD also recommends extending the term of WFP’s Agreement until June 30, 2023. This extension will allow WFP to continue administering the City’s Legal Advocacy COVID-19 Response Program in the best interests of the City and its residents; and

WHEREAS, this First Amendment to the Agreement is exempt from public bidding pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(2).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Municipal Council of the City of Jersey City, that:

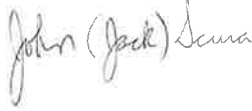
1. The Mayor or Business Administrator is hereby authorized to execute an Amendment to the CDBG-CV Agreement, under the Program Year April 1, 2021-March 31, 2022, with the Subrecipient identified on the list below, under the City’s COVID-19 CARES Act entitlement program, and to execute amendments and modifications to Agreements, as deemed necessary by the City of Jersey City’s DCD during the fiscal year; and
2. Subject to review and approval by the Corporation Counsel, the Mayor or Business Administrator is hereby authorized to execute mortgages, notes, affordable housing development agreements, and other such documents deemed necessary to secure loans and grants made under the City’s HUD entitlement grants. The terms and conditions of the aforementioned documents may be negotiated by the DCD and shall be in accordance with all laws, rules, and regulations applicable to the program.

<u>AGENCY NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>ACCOUNT #</u>	<u>P.O. #</u>
The Waterfront Project, Inc.	\$100,000.00	59-200-56-001-520	145817

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I hereby certify that there are sufficient funds for the payment of this resolution in the amount of \$\$100,000, in account number 59-200-56-001-520; PO# 145817.

John (Jack) Scura, Acting Chief Financial Officer



APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM



Business Administrator



Corporation Counsel

Certification Required

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE – Sep 08														8-0	
	AYE	NAY	N.V.	Absent		AYE	NAY	N.V.	Absent		AYE	NAY	N.V.	Absent	N.V. – (Abstain)
RIDLEY				✓	SALEH	✓				DEGISE	✓				
PRINZ-AREY	✓				SOLOMON	✓				RIVERA	✓				
BOGGIANO	✓				GILMORE	✓				WATTERMANN, PRES	✓				

Adopted at a meeting of the Municipal Council of the City of Jersey.



President of Council



City Clerk

Resolution of the Municipal Council of the City of Jersey City Authorizing an Amendment to a CDBG-CV Agreement with The Waterfront Project, Inc. for Administering the City’s Legal Advocacy COVID-19 Response Program Under the Program Year April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2022

RESOLUTION FACT SHEET -

This summary sheet is to be attached to the front of any resolution that is submitted for Council consideration. Incomplete or vague fact sheets will be returned with the resolution.

Project Manager

Tichael Hill, tba		201-547-4861	THILL@JCNJ.ORG
Department	Department of Housing, Economic Development, and Commerce		
Division	Division of Community Development		

Note: Project Manager must be available by phone during agenda meeting (Wednesday prior to council meeting @ 1:00 p.m.)

Meeting	Regular Meeting of Municipal Council - Sep 08 2022
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Purpose

The City of Jersey City’s Division of Community Development (DCD) is respectfully seeking approval from the Municipal Council of the City of Jersey City (the City) to amend an Agreement, dated September 15, 2021, with The Waterfront Project, Inc. (WFP). The purpose of this Amendment is to award WFP an additional \$100,000.00 (CDBG-CV funds), and to extend WFP’s contract term. WFP requested additional funds to continue administering the City’s Legal Advocacy- COVID-19 Response Program (the Program). The Program provides legal services to low and moderate-income (LMI) residents of Jersey City at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI), especially in an effort to prevent evictions due to the ongoing impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19). WFP is a legal services nonprofit and HUD-certified housing counseling agency with extensive experience in providing legal assistance to people who are most at risk. WFP is working in collaboration with the Jersey City Housing Authority (JCHA) and various nonprofit agencies, which send WFP referrals. The City’s DCD has determined that WFP has the requisite experience and expertise to utilize additional CDBG-CV funds to continue administering this Program. The City’s DCD has also determined that this Program serves the best interests of the City by enabling the City’s most vulnerable residents to remain secure in their homes and communities.

Contract term (include all)

Original term of Subrecipient Agreement: 9/15/2021-9/15/2022. Subrecipient Agreement will be extended through 6/30/2023.

ATTACHMENTS:

EEO-Forms(TWP) Memo-TWP FactSheet-TWP The Waterfront Project - CDGE-CV

Approved by
 Deja Anderson, Director, Division of Community Development
 Annisia Cialone, HEDC Director
 Ray Reddington, Attorney
 Jeana Abuan, Public Agency Compliance Officer
 Floyd Jeter, Diversity and Inclusion
 Patrice Lambert, Assistant Purchasing Agent
 John Scura, Acting Chief Financial Officer
 John Metro, Business Administrator

Status:
 Approved - Aug 18 2022
 Approved - Aug 19 2022
 Approved - Aug 24 2022
 Approved - Aug 25 2022
 Approved - Aug 25 2022
 Approved - Aug 25 2022
 Approved - Aug 30 2022
 Approved - Aug 30 2022