DATE:       May 19, 2022

TO:          Honorable Councilmember Chris Cate, Budget Review Committee Chair, and Honorable Budget Review Committee Members

FROM:        Rolando Charvel, Department of Finance Director and City Comptroller

SUBJECT:     Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Review Committee Referral Responses for the May 6, 2022, Morning and Afternoon Sessions

This memorandum provides responses and/or follow up information to unanswered questions asked at the Budget Review Committee meeting held on May 6, 2022. The Department of Finance has worked with the appropriate department(s) to obtain answers to these questions and provide a consolidated response. The responses are listed by department in the order that they were reviewed by the Committee.

**Fire-Rescue**

**COUNCIL DISTRICT 8**

**QUESTION:**
How much funding will be needed to ensure adequate landscaping maintenance takes place at every fire station?

**RESPONSE:**
Approximately $210,000 per year would be required to provide landscaping services at the 42 fire stations that have landscaping.

**Economic Development**

**COUNCIL DISTRICT 8**

**QUESTION:**
A coalition of non-profits, including Logan Community Development Corporation (CDC) and City Heights CDC, sent a letter to the City this past February asking for $500,000 to go towards education, outreach and technical support and $500,000 for creation of a Sidewalk Vending Relief Fund. What is the Department’s response on this request?

**RESPONSE:**
Due to the uncertain nature of the rollout of outreach and education related to the Street Vending Ordinance (SVO) program, and corresponding unknown amount of future cost needed
to ensure successful implementation, the Economic Development Department (EDD) would like to continue working with our partner community-based organizations (CBO) for the initial months of program activation to better determine the level of additional resources required once the current contract amount ($100,000 per CBO) is exhausted. EDD Staff can continue to communicate needs of our communities, parks, and partner CBOs through the normal budget monitoring process.

**QUESTION:**
How is the Department planning to ensure American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to be used for homelessness assistance and supportive services are allocated equitably in Council Districts impacted the most by homelessness?

**RESPONSE:**
The HOME American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) allocation for the City of San Diego is $20,956,979. The HOME-ARP grant ends on September 30, 2030, allowing for a thorough consultation with the public and impacted populations, and data analysis. The City has released a Request for Proposal (RFP) to select a consultant to assist with this community engagement and outreach process. The RFP submittal deadline was May 16, 2022. The Allocation Plan outreach process is tentatively scheduled to begin early Summer 2022. Each of the Council Districts will be asked to assist with outreach efforts. HOME-ARP funds will only become available once the City has submitted, and HUD has approved, a HOME-ARP Allocation Plan. Requirements of the Allocation Plan process include public participation, and consultation with impacted vulnerable populations and organizations serving those populations. This process will ensure an equitable and impactful allocation of the HOME-ARP funds.

**QUESTION:**
In the key performance indicators, the targeted percentage growth in number of companies working with the Economic Development Department resulting in international trade is 2%. Are businesses in border communities, which were impacted by the closure of the border during the pandemic, included in this 2% international trade and investment?

**RESPONSE:**
Yes, it includes businesses along the border communities such as Otay Mesa.
cc continued:
  Matthew Vespi, Chief Financial Officer
  Kristina Peralta, Deputy Chief Operating Officer
  Jeffrey Sturak, Deputy Chief Operating Officer
  Alia Khouri, Deputy Chief Operating Officer
  David Nisleit, Chief, Police Department
  Colin Stowell, Chief, Fire-Rescue Department
  Jessica Lawrence, Director of Policy, Office of the Mayor
  Javier Gomez, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Mayor
  Christina Bibler, Director, Economic Development Department
  Benjamin Battaglia, Assistant Director, Department of Finance
  Vanessa Montenegro, Interim Financial Operations Manager, Department of Finance
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