DATE: May 16, 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 4, 2022, Afternoon Session

This memorandum provides responses and/or follow up information to unanswered questions asked at the Budget Review Committee meeting held on the afternoon of May 4, 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.

City Treasurer

COUNCIL DISTRICT 5

QUESTION:
Please provide more details on ACH fees for customers who use ACH vs a credit card to pay for fines, permits, etc.

RESPONSE:
Currently, a $2.50 ACH fee is charged, per transaction, by an outside vendor to process Delinquent Account ACH payments. The Office of the City Treasurer is currently working on implementing two new e-Commerce platforms that will be used to accept citywide ACH payments and these fees will range from $0.45 to $1.50. Implementation of these new platforms is expected in the Fall of 2022.

Special Promotional Programs

COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

QUESTION:
How is the Arts, Culture & Community Festivals (ACCF) Funding Program different than the Community Projects, Programs & Services (CPPS) Funding Program?
RESPONSE:
The City Council Arts, Culture and Community Festivals (ACCF) is awarded to non-profit organizations and public agencies for the purpose of promoting local arts and culture. Funds awarded are paid on a reimbursement basis and are intended to support operational expenses and/or sponsorship of special events at the discretion of each Councilmember during the fiscal year. Annual funding levels are subject to the amount of Transient Occupancy Tax [TOT] allocated to each Councilmember in a given fiscal year—funding should be considered a one-time resource, and planned uses should be one-time in nature. The City Council Office ACCF Funding Program is governed by Council Policy 100-23. The application process includes two steps: 1) Request for Qualifications (RFQ), and 2) Request for Proposals (RFP).

The City Council Community Projects, Programs and Services (CPPS) is awarded to non-profit organizations, public agencies, and City Departments for community projects, programs, and services, including community, social, environmental, cultural, and recreational needs that serve a lawful public purpose. Funds awarded to organizations and agencies are paid on a reimbursement basis only and are at the discretion of Council Offices. Annual funding levels are subject to budget priorities as established by the City Council each year—funding should be considered a one-time resource, and planned uses should be one-time in nature. The City Council Office CPPS Funding Program is governed by Council Policy 100-06. The application process includes two steps: 1) Request for Qualifications (RFQ), and 2) Request for Proposals (RFP).

COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

QUESTION:
How is funding for the Economic Development Programs allocated? Is there an application process?

RESPONSE:
Economic Development Programs support local nonprofits that foster the City’s economic prosperity and quality of life. Funding opportunities are available to local nonprofits that launch, expand, attract, or retain businesses in the city, advancing San Diego as a leading innovation hub and tourist destination. Use of TOT funds is guided by Council Policy 100-03 and includes allocations for Economic Development and Tourism Support (EDTS). The application process for EDTS includes two steps: 1) Request for Qualifications (RFQ), and 2) Request for Proposals (RFP). Full details regarding the respective application processes are available here: https://www.sandiego.gov/economic-development/about/funding.

Guidelines and applications received this year between March 21 through April 12, 2022 are available here: https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/fy2023_ed_funding_guidelines_updated_2022-03-24.pdf.

Sincerely,
Rolando Charvel
Department of Finance Director and City Comptroller
RC/ff
Honorable Councilmember Chris Cate, Budget Review Committee Chair, and Honorable Budget Review Committee Members
May 16, 2022

cc: Honorable Mayor Todd Gloria
    Honorable City Attorney Mara Elliott
    Paola Avila, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor
    Jay Goldstone, Chief Operating Officer
    Charles Modica, Independent Budget Analyst
    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
    Elizabeth Correia, Director, City Treasurer
    Christina Bibler, Director, Economic Development
    Benjamin Battaglia, Assistant Director, Department of Finance
    Vanessa Montenegro, Interim Financial Operations Manager, Department of Finance
    Department of Finance Staff