



Legislation Text

File #: 14-0531, **Version:** 1

Recommendation to authorize City Manager, or designee, to execute an amendment to the existing grant agreement between the City of Long Beach and the State of California Department of Public Health, to shorten the term from June 30, 2018 to June 30, 2017 and to accept additional funding of \$94,781, for a total grant amount of \$859,157 to continue the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program to reduce the incidence of childhood lead exposure in Long Beach. (Citywide)

On October 8, 2013, the City Council authorized a grant agreement with the State of California Department of Public Health to accept funding in the amount of \$764,376 for the period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2018. However, on June 6, 2014, the State issued Agreement Number 14-10023 providing an amount of \$859,157 and shortening the term of the agreement to July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017.

The primary goal of the CLPP program is to prevent lead poisoning in children under the age of six years through outreach to the community including parents, teachers, caregivers, physicians, neighbors and friends. The secondary goal is to ensure that children with lead poisoning are followed by a physician and live in a lead-safe environment, through case management by a Public Health Nurse and inspections by a Registered Environmental Health Specialist.

Lead is a highly toxic metal that was used for many years in products found in and around homes, and was banned for use in paint in 1978 by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). An elevated blood lead level in a child is defined as five or more micrograms of lead in a deciliter of blood. Lead poisoning is primarily a problem for children under the age of six, both because they tend to be more "auto-oral exploratory" (*i.e.*, they put more things in their mouths) than older children and adults, and because children exhibit more pronounced health symptoms than do adults at the same blood lead level. In addition, lead poisoning is particularly troubling in young children because the neurobehavioral problems caused by low levels of lead exposure at this age can be permanent; they do not necessarily recede when the exposure to lead ends.

Screening for lead poisoning has become much more comprehensive and the average blood lead level in both adults and children has dropped significantly. To date, the CLPP program has provided case management to 576 children with elevated blood lead levels; attended over 160 outreach events including health fairs and community events with 9,364 people reached; and delivered over 600 presentations to healthcare providers, childcare providers, and community groups with over 4,800 individuals reached. The number of childhood lead poisonings among children continues to decline for Long Beach. However, continued education and case management is critical as 85 percent of the housing stock in Long Beach

was built before 1978.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Amy Webber on June 30, 2014 and by Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on July 3, 2014.

City Council action on this matter is requested on July 22, 2014, in order to continue the program without interruption.

With the increase of \$94,781, the total amount of the agreement is \$859,157 for the revised period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017. Sufficient funding for FY 15 is currently appropriated in the Health Fund (SR 130) in the Department of Health and Human Services (HE). Subsequent years' appropriations will be included as part of that annual budget process. No match or in-kind service mandate is required, and there is no local job impact associated with this action.

Approve recommendation.

KELLY COLOPY
DIRECTOR
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

APPROVED:

PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER