

**Council Meeting: September 30, 2008****SUBJECT: Authorization to Award Contract in the Amount of \$276,000 to Vietnam Veterans of California for Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program****REPORT IN BRIEF**

In June 2008 Council authorized NOVA to submit a proposal to the U. S. Department of Labor for Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) funds to assist in integrating local veterans into meaningful employment. The grant was proposed to be administered by NOVA, with services provided by the Vietnam Veterans of California. NOVA was recently notified that it has been selected for a grant award. Staff recommends that the Sunnyvale City Council, on behalf of the seven-city NOVA Consortium, authorize a subcontract to Vietnam Veterans of California in the amount of \$276,000 for services related to the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program.

**BACKGROUND**

The U. S. Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, made available up to \$3.5 million to award grants for Homeless Veterans Reintegration Programs (HVRPs) in selected urban and non-urban areas for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. HVRP grants are intended to address two objectives: (1) To provide services to assist in reintegrating homeless veterans into meaningful employment, and (2) to stimulate the development of effective service delivery systems that will address the complex problems facing homeless veterans. Two optional years of additional funding are potentially available, depending on Congressional funding appropriations and satisfactory grantee performance. NOVA received a grant for \$275,000 in 2004 and received second- and third-year funding in 2005 and 2006. For 2008-09, the maximum grant amount for urban applications is \$300,000.

On June 3, 2008 Council authorized NOVA staff to submit a proposal for HVRP funds in the amount of \$300,000 (RTC 08-172). NOVA was recently notified that it was selected as one of three first-year California grantees for an award in the full amount requested.

## **EXISTING POLICY**

The proposed activities are consistent with the City of Sunnyvale's Socio-Economic Goal 5.1F: Provide job training and employment services within constraints of operative, federal regulations and available federal funding, to address the locally-determined employment and training needs of economically disadvantaged residents and others with special needs.

## **DISCUSSION**

NOVA has supported local funding for veterans employment and training on an uninterrupted basis since 1988 through the Job Training Partnership Act, Workforce Investment Act, and the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program. NOVA has a well-developed and unique partnership with a community-based veteran services agency, Next Step Center, located on the grounds of the Veterans Administration Palo Alto Menlo Park Health Care System. Next Step's administrative and fiscal agent is the Vietnam Veterans of California.

NOVA's proposal was written with the Next Step Center as the service provider partner. Next Step has operated veterans programs for NOVA since 1988 and is well prepared to address the unmet needs of homeless veterans in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties who have significant barriers to employment. They will provide employment and training services, housing assistance, supportive services, placement and follow-up through a case management approach and through linkages with the one-stop system and other public and private organizations. The ultimate objective of the services provided is to place each veteran into meaningful, gainful employment in high wage, high growth occupations.

The subcontract to Vietnam Veterans of California will be in the amount of \$276,000. The remaining \$24,000 from the \$300,000 grant is for NOVA's administration, reporting and oversight of the project.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

The source of funds for this project is Department of Labor funding targeted for veterans. These funds were awarded to NOVA and the City of Sunnyvale through a competitive application process. As such there is sufficient funding to accomplish the required work, and the funding cannot be used for any purposes not in the original proposal. There is no negative fiscal impact on the City of Sunnyvale.

## **PUBLIC CONTACT**

Public contact was made through posting of the Council agenda on the City's official notice bulletin board and at the Senior Center and Community Center, posting of the agenda and report on the City's Web site, publication of the Council agenda in the *San Jose Mercury News*, and the availability of the report in the Library and the Office of the City Clerk.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

1. Council authorizes the award of a contract in the amount of \$276,000 to Vietnam Veterans of California to provide services for the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program.
2. Council does not authorize the contract award.
3. Other action as determined by Council.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended by staff that the Sunnyvale City Council, on behalf of the NOVA seven-city consortium, adopt Alternative 1: Council authorizes the award of a contract in the amount of \$276,000 to Vietnam Veterans of California to provide services for the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program.

Reviewed by:

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