


Agenda Report Reviewed by:
City Manager: 

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM

Meeting Date: July 20, 2021
To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
From: City Administration
Subject: Use of City Council Initiatives Fund to allocate funding to specific initiatives or projects for FY 20-21 Budget
Recommendation : That the City Council Discuss and Act Upon the Request for Use of City Council Initiatives Funds
Funding: Currently Budgeted: XX Yes _____ No _____ N/A
Net General Fund Cost: 100-1001-4800
Budgeted FY 20-21: \$2,500.00
Budget Remaining: \$1,500.00

Account Code/Costs authorized in City Approved Budget AK (verified by Administrative Services Department)

INTRODUCTION:

This item is to request the City Council Discuss and Consider approval of the Use of Council Initiative Funds to allocate funding to specific initiatives or projects. It is recommended the City Council propose specific organizations, programs or ideas that could benefit from the use of these funds.

BACKGROUND:

In fiscal year 2010-2011, the City Council Initiatives budget line item was established in the City's budget to allow the City Council to allocate funding to specific initiatives or projects. Each Councilmember is allocated 1/5 of the total budget for this line item and can be used to provide funding to Council desired initiatives and to encourage innovation that has the potential to support and contribute to the goals of Council in conformance with City regulations and policies. Each Councilmember can expend their entire allotment; transfer their funds to another Councilmember's initiative or project; or return those funds to the General Fund at the end of the year to be placed back into the City's fund balance.

Approval of any funding is required to be approved by a majority of the City Council (three affirmative votes).

DISCUSSION:

Since this fund was initiated, many various programs and non-profit agencies have received funding from this account (such as Sebastopol World Friends Transportation Costs and Scholarships, Cittaslow, Chamber of Commerce, Analy 1-4-1 Club (Culinary Boot Camp, Sacramento Leadership Council trip), Community Center, Senior Center, Ives Pool, Sebastopol Fire Department, City Hall/Library Landscaping, Appreciation Dinner, as well as purchasing equipment such as automated external defibrillator (AEDs) for the Sebastopol Fire Department and Community Center.

There are many worthwhile and valuable projects and initiatives that benefit from the allocation of these funds such as community groups and organizations that provide special activities, programs or services to the citizens of the community. As the number and variety of funding requests made to the City have increased over the years, this allows the City Council an opportunity to allocate additional funds to these worthwhile organizations, projects and initiatives.

The City's adopted FY 2020-21 budget includes a line item in the amount of \$2,500 for Council Initiatives Fund. This item was originally brought to the City Council on November 17, 2020 for discussion and consideration. At that time, Councilmember Carnacchi has requested to use his Council initiative funds of \$500 to be distributed to the Sebastopol Downtown Association (SDA). Councilmember Hinton requested the use of her Council initiative funds to be disbursed to the Sebastopol Firefighter Association. As a result, two Council initiative funds have been distributed.

The following funds are available for consideration:

Mayor Glass	\$500
Vice Mayor Gurney	\$500
Councilmember Slayer	\$500

Funds allocated in the FY 20-21 budget need to be disbursed no later than July 30th, 2021 for the City to close the FY 20-21 Budget. If funds are not requested for use tonight, the funds will be returned to the City's General Fund.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

As of the writing of this staff report, the City has not received any public comment. However, if staff receives public comment from interested parties following the publication and distribution of this staff report such comments will be provided to the City Council as supplemental materials before or at the meeting. In addition, public comments may be offered during the public comment portion of this item.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

This item was noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to scheduled meeting date.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with the recommended action tonight as the item has been budgeted for in the FY 20-21 City Budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is to request the City Council Discuss and Consider approval of the Use of Council Initiative Funds to allocate funding to specific initiatives or projects.

Attachments:

None