

CITY OF BELLEVUE
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES

July 26, 2022
6:00 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Room 1E-113

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chair Piper, Vice Chair Amirfaiz, Commissioners Ma, Phan, Singh

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Commissioner Mansfield

STAFF PRESENT: Christy Stangland, Toni Esparza, Leslie Miller, Asma Ahmed, Donna Adair, Department of Parks and Community Services; Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis

GUEST SPEAKERS: Gerardo Rodriguez, Abraham Villaseñor, Interpreters

RECORDING SECRETARY: Gerry Lindsay

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Piper who presided.

2. ROLL CALL

Upon the call of the roll, all Commissioners were present with the exception of Commissioner Mansfield who was excused. Commissioner Ma participated via Zoom.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None

4. ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Piper noted for the record the receipt of four written communications since the previous Commission meeting, all of which had been forwarded to the Commissioners.

Ketty Hsieh spoke as CEO of KinOn, a non-profit organization serving Asian seniors with linguistically and culturally appropriate care and services. The Commission was asked to support the program in Bellevue which is located across from Crossroads Mall from which the healthy living program is operated. The program includes seminars on health issues as well as classes focused on health and social activities. According to the 2019 census, there are over 16,000 Chinese-speaking residents in Bellevue, more than 20 percent of whom are 55 or older, and many of whom have limited English language skills. Most sessions are offered for free or for only a nominal fee. It takes more than \$380,000 annually to run the program, which includes supporting the staff and rent on the space. If Bellevue were to support about a third of the overall cost, the outcome would be healthier and less isolated Asian seniors.

Ruping Su, also with KinOn, urged the Commission to fund the program.

Erica Ng spoke as a mentor with Teen Link and stressed the value the program adds to the community for all who are involved. Teen Link is an organization that is part of the Crisis Connection network. It is a peer-to-peer help line for teens in crisis. Any teen in the community can call in to talk about issues such as suicide, domestic violence. There are no

other similar programs and there is a great need for having teens that other teens can relate to. The program saves lives while building the leadership capacity and service opportunities for the teen volunteers. From a beginning as a teen volunteer, Erica Ng noted being in the process of becoming a board member for the organization. The Commission was urged to continue funding the program.

Jackie Bui, director of community-based services for Youth Eastside Services, highlighted the Latino Heat program. The program provides culturally relevant youth development activities via bilingual and bicultural staff. The program focused on preparing for college readiness captures student voices, promotes leadership skills and youth-led community service projects and cultural celebration events. The after-school program engages Hispanic youth who are at high-risk of dropping out of school. The program increases youth safety and deals with the negative impacts of the school system on Latino youth. The program uses a culturally responsive and evidence-based and trauma-informed approach to providing prevention services and a sense of belonging, both in school and in the community. The program is located at Sammamish High School in Bellevue as well as at Redmond High School and Juanita High School in Kirkland. The Commission was urged to fully fund the program.

Debbie Halela, director of behavior health services for Youth Eastside Services, shared having been a counselor and supervisor for the agency for the past 31 years. YES has a long history of serving youth and families in Bellevue. The behavioral health program provides counseling for mental health and substance use disorders. The program relies on funding from the city to continue supporting the behavioral health needs in the community, especially for those families lacking the resources to obtain them. The Commissioners were urged to continue funding the services. Over the last couple of years, a lot of resources have been invested in diversifying the staff to more fully mirror the community served. That has involved hiring diverse, bicultural and bilingual staff during a very challenging time for hiring. H1B visas and green cards have been sponsored by the agency for uniquely qualified staff, particularly those with Mandarin Chinese and Spanish language skills. The agency has also invested in training its staff in evidence-based treatment modalities in order to be positioned to offer the best treatment to all clients regardless of their ability to pay. Time has been invested in collaborating with partners in Bellevue schools to better connect students in need to behavioral health services. During the pandemic the organization closed its doors for only a couple of months, during which time remote services were provided. The return to in-person services was effected as soon as possible in recognition that children and families with behavioral health needs respond best to in-person interventions. Other agencies are still providing services remotely. During the past school year, the program received a flood of referrals while at the same time dealing with staff attrition. That resulted in having to pause accepting new referrals. Over the past few months five additional clinicians were hired. Now fully staffed once again, referrals will once again be accepted from the community starting in August. Bellevue's trust in the program is appreciated.

Divya Sikka, a senior at Interlake High School, spoke regarding the Teen Link program and stated that as someone who has been working on the phone line for the past year and a half, it is clear that teens are more willing to open up to other teens. Those operating the phones received about 40 hours of thorough training. The topics addressed range from self-harm and suicide to issues with parents and teens just wanting to talk with someone. Many lately have been having trouble making friends, having parents open to their identities, and dealing with breakups or arguments with friends. In such cases the Teen Link volunteers discuss coping mechanisms personalized to the caller. The callers are also encouraged to talk with someone in their lives who they trust. Divya Sikka indicated having learned to better empathize with and validate people. Teen Link is a crucial resource for many of the callers and there are no similar programs.

Darryl Haines, associate dean with Bellevue College, spoke in regard to the Preparing for Work program. The program offers a continuum of support, including prevention and education in job skills, to immigrants and refugees who need to obtain employment to support the development of individuals and families in the community. In partnership with the city, the program provides the important work of building equity and accessibility for non-traditional English language learners. The program has experienced instructors in ESL and job search and work placement, and it leads to a stellar student success rate. The program was created in 1997 in partnership with the city to provide a workplace-focused ESL program for immigrants and refugees. The city has fully funded the program from the beginning. With a proven record and a future focused on creative planning for Bellevue's changing demographics, the program is vital to the community. The Commission was urged to fully funding the Preparing for Work program.

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL, COMMUNITY COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis reported the Council having voted to move forward with creating an implementation plan for a year-long safe parking pilot program. As the Commission is aware, more than half of those who are unsheltered in King County are living in vehicles, including about 300 in East King County during the Point in Time count in 2020. An unofficial count in Bellevue done in December of 2021 listed about 83 vehicles in which people and families were likely living. A safe parking program, while not a solution to homelessness, would provide an alternative to parking on the street, assist residents in finding stable housing and in accessing services, allow them to access clean water and sanitation, and provide increased safety for those residing in their vehicles. The Council was presented with a recommendation for a centralized operational model under which the city would contract with a single service provider for the management of all safe parking sites and to explore siting the pilot program on city-owned property. A similar program in San Diego has a great success rate.

Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis also reported that the city's police chief recently briefed the Council on an initiative under way in response to rising crime rates, a trend that has been observed throughout the region. The data collected by the department from 2021 through 2022 showed certain crimes, including shoplifting, motor vehicle theft, car prowls and robberies have increased year over year. The state is on pace to hit an all-time high of 50,000 car thefts in 2022. In response, Bellevue police is using the data to focus on changing that trajectory through increased patrols in key areas, sharing information on trends and tactics with officers throughout the department, and offering the public more information through a recently launched Bellevue transparency website. In addition, the police department is working collaboratively with other law enforcement agencies in the area on such widespread problems as catalytic converter and retail thefts. In Bellevue's north sector where the initiative has been in effect since June, all categories of crimes are down.

During the July 25 Council meeting, a briefing was given on the city's response to the heat wave that have involved direct outreach and relief efforts for individuals who are unhoused in the community. The messaging has included information regarding heat and water safety, and partnerships with other agencies, to ensure having the messages getting out to a broad audience. The messages went out in all the city's top languages.

With regard to supportive housing, Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis said the Council's July 25 discussion was interesting. There was a split decision in relation to how the city will comply with state law around supportive and emergency housing. State law mandates that cities allow permanent supportive housing and transitional housing uses in all land use districts where residential dwellings and hotels are allowed and requires cities to allow emergency shelters

and emergency housing in any land use districts where hotels are allowed. The Council voted 4-3 to pass an ordinance recommended by the Planning Commission to amend the Land Use Code to align with the state law. The three Councilmembers who voted no wished to implement some further basic minimum standards and requirements for providers that will be running and regulating the facilities. The ordinance was ultimately approved without including basic standards. The mayor did, however, ask staff to come back in about a year to reassess whether the ordinance as passed is successfully managing supportive and emergency housing and if further adjustments need to be made.

The Council also approved an ordinance to place an initiative for future parks funding on the ballot for November. The Council also approved the selection of community members for the initiative's pro and con statements to be included in the voter pamphlet. The ballot measure proposes to levy an additional property tax to fund parks in an amount of about twenty cents for every one thousand dollars of assessed value. The measure is responsive to Council priorities and needs identified by the community and would help fund the city's future park investments to address community priorities and park system gaps, such as in the Eastgate area.

Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis highlighted the fact that July 26 marked the 32nd anniversary of the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act, legislation that continues to provide protections for those with disabilities. The Council proclaimed the week as Americans with Disabilities Week, and also proclaimed the month of July as Muslim American Heritage month.

6. STAFF AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Department of Parks and Community Services assistant director Toni Esparza stressed the need for the Commissioners and staff to be aware of the state ethics law specific to levies. The law prohibits employees and Commissioners in their official capacities from using city facilities and resources to support or oppose such ballot measures. Detailed instructions from the City Attorney's Office will be sent out to all Commissioners and staff to assure compliance.

7. INFORMATION FOR THE COMMISSION

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Human Services Application Review – Finalize Draft Recommendations

Human Services Manager Leslie Miller noted that the original spreadsheet purposely excluded amounts previously funded. A new spreadsheet showing past funding was presented to the Commission that specifically highlighted new programs and new agencies. The spreadsheet also indicated where the Commission's preliminary recommendation represented both increases and decreases to past funding levels. The Community Development Block Grant funds for public services were also listed as part of the total.

Leslie Miller stated that Commissioner Mansfield had expressed to staff a concern about Youth Eastside Services open access, noting that a response was given during public comments about being able to accept new referrals in a timely manner.

Application 116: Youth Eastside Services – Behavioral Health Care for Children and Youth

Vice Chair Amirfaiz said the concerns were with the number of referrals even after the

program goes back to accepting new referrals, and with the number of therapists hired. It remains to be seen how the program will respond to the expected flood of referrals. Vice Chair Amirfaiz recommended funding at \$150,000.

Commissioner Singh favored going with the staff recommendation of \$239,467. Commissioners Ma and Phan agreed, as did Chair Piper.

Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis questioned the substantial increase in funding over the previous allocation for Youth Eastside Services. Leslie Miller explained that currently the agency's five programs are receiving \$333,822. The current recommendation from the Commission totals \$376,586. The two areas of increase are for the Latine programs and behavioral health for children and youth.

Commissioner Ma said the Commission has often heard about the rising issue of youth mental health in the community. The thinking was that the area requires more investment. The Commission's recommendation relative to Application 116 represents an increase but does not rise to the level of the full ask.

Application 98: Asian Counseling and Referral Service – Whole Health Oriented Mental Health Program

Chair Piper noted there had been a question raised about Bellevue residents being Medicaid eligible. Commissioner Phan explained that most are in fact eligible for Medicaid and some are low-income with a mental health disability, though some may have issues due to their immigration status.

There was consensus not to make any changes to the draft allocation.

Application 102: Crisis Connections – Crisis Line

Chair Piper the previous question raised about Bellevue being asked to shoulder more of the financial burden than other jurisdictions.

There was consensus not to make any changes to the draft allocation.

Application 106: IKRON of Greater Seattle – Behavioral Health Services

Leslie Miller commented that even where clients are Medicaid eligible, sometimes it takes awhile to get on to Medicaid. The city dollars help to pay for that gap.

There was consensus not to make any changes to the draft allocation.

Application 110: NAMI Eastside – Mental Health Education and Support Programs

Chair Piper called attention to the previous question raised about what city dollars would pay for and the number of residents served. Leslie Miller noted having emailed an updated budget to all Commissioners.

Human Services Planner Christy Stangland said the 2021 actual number of Bellevue residents served was 576.

There was consensus not to make any changes to the draft allocation.

Application 113: Therapeutic Health Services – Substance Abuse and Mental Health Treatment Program

Chair Piper said the unanswered question was why the ask from Bellevue was higher than from the other cities.

Commissioner Phan assumed it was because Bellevue has more money for allocation to human services. Leslie Miller agreed but stressed the need to be clear as to whether or not an agency is seeking a proportionate amount and noted that the numbers on the spreadsheet make it clear Therapeutic Health Services is doing that.

Commissioner Ma expressed a desire to increase the funding over the draft amount. Substance abuse is obviously an issue and Bellevue does have a higher number of residents served compared to other Eastside cities. The draft number is less than what was previously awarded. The proposal was made to increase the allocation to an even \$90,000.

There was consensus not to increase the allocation to \$90,000.

Application 100: Bridge Disability Ministries – Meyer Medical Equipment Center

There was consensus not to make any changes to the draft allocation.

Application 104: HealthPoint – Dental Care

Chair Piper noted there had been questions about the outcomes and some incomplete aspects of the budget.

Leslie Miller explained that the immigration status keeps quite a few clients from being able to access Medicaid.

Commissioner Phan stated that city funding will help to offset the cost of care for sliding fee patients who are uninsured.

There was consensus not to make any changes to the draft allocation.

Application 114: Washington Poison Center – Emergency and Education Services

Chair Piper said the question on the table was around federal funding. Asma Ahmed indicated no additional information had been received from the agency.

There was consensus not to make any changes to the draft allocation.

Application 115: Wonderland Child and Family Services – Hope Rising Clinic

Commissioner Phan noted the question asked was what impact an allocation of only \$5000 would have on the program. The response from the agency was that the grant would help to offset the costs to the clinic of serving clients residing in the Bellevue area, which is anticipated to increase over the years. Direct program funding for the clinic comes from insurance fees and grant funding helps to expand the funding base and keep the clinic services accessible.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz allowed that the number of Bellevue residents to be served is projected to be only three and recommended against funding the application.

Christy Stangland clarified that the agency expects to serve eight Bellevue residents but will use Bellevue funds to serve only three of the eight.

There was consensus not to make any changes to the draft allocation.

Application 118: ANEW – Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Training and Supportive Services

There was consensus not to make any changes to the draft allocation.

Leslie Miller took a moment to walk through the Commission's investment in education. It was pointed out that Jewish Family Service had not reapplied for funding and a large portion of the \$200,000 previously awarded to that agency was for education, particularly for immigrant and refugee populations. Defunding the Hopelink program means even less going toward education.

Application 128: Bellevue College – Head Start Program

Commissioner Phan said the unanswered question was what the extra funding would be used for since Head Start is federally funded. The agency's answer was that federal funding does not cover all of the costs of staffing. The request specifically asks for funding to pay for the student workers hired in addition to the teachers which allows for having lower ratios and many different race and ethnicities represented in the classroom. The students hired all have F1 visas and they add diversity to the classroom due to their many backgrounds and experiences. In the past Issaquah has been asked for funding as well but they have never approved an ask.

There was consensus not to make any changes to the draft allocation.

Application 129: Bellevue School District – Early Learning Preschool Program

There was consensus not to make any changes to the draft allocation.

Application 130: Child Care Resources – Child Care Financial Assistance Program

Commissioner Phan said the question the Commission had was whether there are any other sources of funding that should be included in the budget. The agency's answer was no. Another question was in regard to the amount per voucher and how many vouchers are distributed to each family. The agency's answer was the per voucher amount is \$1200 and vouchers are distributed to about 30 families for a total of 189 vouchers.

Chair Piper voiced an inclination toward funding at more than the draft amount due to the critical need for child care and suggested \$160,000

There was consensus to fund the application at \$160,000.

Application 131: Child Care Resources – Homeless Child Care Program

Chair Piper noted there had been a decline in the number of residents projected to be served, down to only five residents. Christy Stangland said the program served 10 in 2021. That number could be affected with Mary's Place being located in Bellevue.

Chair Piper noted that the Commission had previously decided not to fund the application.

Commissioner Phan pointed out that Goal 5 was a priority for the Commission and recommended funding at the staff-recommended level of \$14,938.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz said one option would be to not fund Application 131 and put the \$14,938 into Application 130 to fund more child care vouchers.

Commissioner Singh argued against taking that approach and in favor of the staff recommendation. Commissioner Phan concurred.

Commissioner Ma agreed as well, noting that the program is one way to help transition the homeless into finding jobs and out of homelessness.

There was consensus to go with the staff recommendation.

****BREAK****

The Commission reviewed the subtotals by group, beginning with outreach under Goal Area 1. It was noted that the Commission recommendation was in line with the staff framework.

Commissioner Phan reiterated a desire to see Application 5, Congregations for the Homeless – Outreach fully funded. No other Commissioners joined in that sentiment.

With regard to the critical infrastructure group under Goal Area 1, Chair Piper noted the Commission recommendation exceeded the staff framework but was only about half of the requested totals.

Leslie Miller called out the applications for Congregations for the Homeless – Enhanced Shelter, and Sophia Way – Helen's Place, as being the most striking in terms of percentage of the ask awarded. Lifewire – Emergency and Transitional Housing will have the opportunity to seek funding via the Housing Stability RFP.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz proposed fully funding Application 29, Babies of Homelessness. There was full support for doing that.

Commissioner Ma proposed taking \$30,000 from Application 2, Congregations for the Homeless – Enhanced Shelter, and putting it into Application 11, LifeWire, Emergency and Transitional Shelter. Toni Esparza reiterated that agencies that receive capital funding from the Housing Stability Program are positioned to apply for funding for ongoing services. Given that the funds cannot be used to supplant previously received Human Services Fund dollars, LifeWire can only be allocated an amount equal to what they previously received, with the balance to potentially be funded with Housing Stability Program funds.

Commissioner Phan proposed increasing the funding for Application 14, Sophia Way – Helen's Place, by \$10,000.

Toni Esparza explained that in 2021 the Council approved issuing an RFP for behavioral health and housing-related services, and those dollars were used to fund agencies in both 2021 and 2022. The Council has approved continuing to have an ongoing RFP issued for Housing

Stability Program dollars. There are some applications in the mix that were previously funded with 1590 dollars, which is now the Housing Stability Program, and they will all be directed to that RFP.

Commissioner Singh agreed with the proposal of Commissioner Phan.

Commissioner Ma proposed holding off to see if there are other small agencies that could benefit more from additional dollars. Chair Piper suggested putting a pin in the proposal by Commissioner Phan while proceeding with the suggestion by Commissioner Ma. Commissioner Phan agreed.

Chair Piper noted the Shelter II group recommended allocation exceeded the staff framework by a little but was far less than the total ask. No proposals were made to change any of the applications in the subgroup.

Chair Piper observed that the Commission recommended allocation for the Housing Programs group was less than the staff framework and less than half the total ask. No proposals were made to change any of the applications in the subgroup.

Chair Piper commented that the same was true for the Emergency Financial Assistance group. The need in the community continues to be critical.

Commissioner Ma proposed reviewing all of the applications that were underfunded compared to previous funding cycles to see if any of them should be padded. Chair Piper agreed but wanted to continue reviewing the subtotals by group first.

Toni Esparza highlighted the applications in the Emergency Financial Assistance category.

Commissioner Ma recommended full funding for Application 112, Sound Generations – Volunteer Transportation Services. There was consensus in favor of the suggestion.

In regard to Application 120, Bellevue College – Preparing for Work, Commissioner Ma proposed increasing the funding to \$50,000. The Commissioners agreed.

Vice Chair Amirfaiz proposed fully funding Application 122, HERO House NW – Supported Employment, and the other Commissioners concurred.

Leslie Miller praised the Commission for its hard work in making funding recommendations. Toni Esparza agreed and added that there were no easy answers given the demand and the number of new requests. Chair Piper expressed the appreciation of the Commission for the work of the staff.

Deputy Mayor Nieuwenhuis asked if there were any organizations that either applied for the first time or did not receive funding that deserved some potential follow-up in terms of assisting them with the application process next time around. Leslie Miller said there had been applications tagged during the review process, adding that the staff and Commission are working to build relationships with agencies whether they were funded or not. Christy Stangland added that staff met with a lot of the first-time agencies prior to the funding review process and provided them with some technical assistance.

Toni Esparza said the draft recommendations would be the subject of an upcoming public hearing, after which the Commission will vote to send its recommendations to the Council.

A motion to extend the meeting for as long as necessary to work through the rest of the

agenda items was made by Commissioner Phan. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Amirfaiz and the motion carried unanimously.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed 2023 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Allocations

Community Development Block Grant Administrator/Housing Repair Specialist Donna Adair explained that the CDBG program is administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The primary objective of the program is to support low- and moderate-income persons through decent housing, suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunity. All activities must meet the national objectives of benefiting low- or moderate-income persons, preventing or eliminating slums and blight, and meeting an urgent need, and must meet the eligibility requirements of program administration, planning and capacity building, public services, rehabilitation, microenterprise assistance, public facilities and improvements, and acquisition of real property.

Donna Adair said the RFP went out in May with a due date of June 20 for applications. Staff reviewed the applications for meeting the national objectives and for eligibility and drafted a review of each application during the months of June and July. Staff also developed proposed funding allocations for the Commission to consider.

The Commission was asked to consider the application and the proposed staff allocations, and to reach consensus on draft preliminary funding recommendations. The public hearing on September 8 will be focused on the draft funding recommendations, following which the Commission will vote on its final funding recommendations. The Council will review the Commission's funding recommendations in the fall and then will vote to adopt a final allocation.

For 2023, the revenue sources include \$175,805 from prior year funds available for reprogramming; \$250,000 in projected 2023 program income; and \$808,000 in Bellevue's projected entitlement. That totals \$1,233,805. The staff proposal was to allocate 15 percent to public services, which is the full cap amount; 20 percent to planning and administration, which is the full cap; and the balance for capital projects in the form of housing repair and microenterprise programs.

The recommendation of staff for the 2023 public services allocation was to award Congregations for the Homeless with \$166,200, the total cap, which was included in the General Fund.

The staff recommendation was to allocate \$136,600 to planning and \$75,000 to administration to address contracting, invoicing and monitoring; meeting all HUD-required documentation; microenterprise support work group; developing all HUD-required reports and plans; and completing the 2023-2024 Human Services Needs Update. For capital projects, the staff-proposed allocation of \$806,005 falls into two categories: rehabilitation, \$738,200, and microenterprise assistance, \$500,000. Home rehabilitation is an eligible activity. The Major Home Repair program focuses on critical repairs needed to maintain the integrity of the home and the health and safety of the homeowner and the occupants, and the Minor Home Repair program focuses on maintenance and primarily minor repairs. Staff recommended allocating \$585,000 to the Major Home Repair program. In addition to contracting with King County Housing Authority, staff proposed contracting with Habitat for Humanity to fill the gap between major and minor home repair projects such as decks, porches, stairs, accessible ramps, bathtub-to-shower conversions, exterior painting, siding repairs and fence repairs. The Minor Home Repair program is operated by Sound Generations for minor but important

projects such as fixing leaking plumbing, replacing broken toilets and sinks, replacing switches, lightbulbs, and furnace filters, installing grab bars and smoke detectors. Funding for Sound Generations was reduced by 50 percent in 2022 and the agency is currently still spending down its 2021 funds, so the staff recommendation was to not fund the agency for 2023 to allow them to catch up and be positioned for possible additional funding in 2024.

The staff-proposed allocation for capital funding was to put \$585,000 into the Major Home Repair Program, including \$85,000 dedicated to Habitat for Humanity.

The staff recommendation including allocating the remaining \$271,005 to microenterprise business assistance. By definition microenterprises have five or fewer employees, at least one of which much own the business. Under the rules, microenterprise funds can be awarded to assist low- or moderate-income persons who own or who are developing a microenterprise. A “person developing a microenterprise” is defined as a person who has expressed an interest and who is, after an initial screening, expected to be actively working towards developing a business that is expected to be a microenterprise at the time it is formed. The applicants and staff-proposed allocations to them were 4 Tomorrow, \$85,000; Bighug Korean Resource Center, \$30,000; Indian American Community Services, \$56,005; and Seattle Business Education Hub, \$100,000. With regard to the latter, funding for 2023 would be contingent upon the agency’s ability to come into compliance with federal regulations on recordkeeping practices, around which staff are providing technical assistance.

The Commissioners were fully supportive of the staff draft funding recommendations.

B. Commissioner Requests to Participate in Future Meetings Remotely

Vice Chair Amirfaiz requested to be allowed to participate remotely for the September 8 meeting.

A motion to approve the request was made by Commissioner Phan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Singh and the motion carried unanimously.

Staff stressed that Commissioner Ma had previously been approved to participate remotely for the September 8 meeting.

Leslie Miller wished Commissioner Phan well after transitioning off the Commission, adding that the community would look a lot different if more people chose to be as involved as Commissioner Phan.

Commissioner Phan said it had been an honor being on the Commission. The staff were thanked for their work, and the Commission was thanked for the good work it does.

Chair Piper stated that Commissioner Phan will be greatly missed.

10. CONTINUED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Piper adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.