



# City of Bellevue

## MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** September 29, 2021

**TO:** Human Services Commission Members

**FROM:** Alex O'Reilly, Human Services Manager, 425-452-2824  
Human Services Division  
Parks & Community Services Department

### **Agenda Item for Tuesday October 5, 2021 Commission Meeting**

#### **Discussion of Bellevue Human Services Potential Small Grants Process**

##### **Background**

At the Commission meetings on Feb. 2 and March 16, 2021, staff and Commissioners had extensive discussions about ways in which Bellevue funding processes could be modified in order to increase access to smaller organizations. Some of the organizations that may encounter barriers to participation in the biennium Human Services Fund allocations process serve historically marginalized, underserved community members.

As a result of those discussions, on March 16 the Commission voted to approve the revised *Financial Eligibility Requirements* which staff drafted after researching Washington State rules regarding funding charitable organizations and consulting with the City's legal team. Staff have used this document for several funding processes in the past few months, including HB 1590 and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and it will be used for the 2023-2024 funding process which will occur next year. Due to time constraints, staff were not able to address questions from Commissioners regarding possible implementation of a small grants process and deferred further discussion to a Commission agenda during the fourth quarter.

##### **Discussion**

At the October 5 meeting, staff will provide additional information about some considerations that relate to whether or not there is still a need for the implementation of a small grants process, then lead a discussion with Commissioners.