

CONSENT AGENDA
FORM NO. 61

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Dennis J. Campa, Director, Department of Community Initiatives

SUBJECT: Approval of 2006 Community Service Block Grant

DATE: December 15, 2005

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance approves submission of a Calendar Year (CY) 2006 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) performance statement, budget and personnel complement to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). It further authorizes, subject to grant award by TDHCA, acceptance of an amount up to \$1,975,218, approves the CY 2006 CSBG budget and personnel complement, and authorizes execution of any documents in connection with the grant award. This ordinance further authorizes execution of a delegate agency contract, contingent upon funding, with the Guadalupe Community Center in an amount up to \$15,000, for the provision of services in connection with the CSBG CY 2006 Program.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Department of Community Initiatives is a designated community action agency and a CSBG eligible entity. DCI has operated the Community Action Program (CAP) for the City of San Antonio and Bexar County since 1979. CSBG provides funds for emergency and case management services that provide a local safety net for the community's most vulnerable residents. Emergency services include: emergency food, rental assistance, utility assistance, and transportation assistance. Long-term case management services are also provided and are designed to transition clients to economic and personal self-sufficiency. Such services include employment, education, and transportation assistance.

Furthermore, the CSBG supports DCI's natural disaster response efforts, including flood relief response (e.g. Hurricane Katrina), Neighborhood Action Sweeps, Code Compliance referrals, requests coordinated with the Council Action Team and the Veteran's Affairs Commission. CSBG funds also aid in establishing self-help projects that increase participation of the poor in the local decision making process.

Another CSBG effort assists families to achieve greater financial self-sufficiency. Through a delegate agency contract with the Guadalupe Community Center, an estimated 500 low-income

families will have access to free tax filing assistance, to include electronic filing service, via the IRS' Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. VITA increases participation in Earned Income and Child Tax Credits to low income working families and establishes links and partnerships to mobilize further resources for the purpose of eliminating poverty in the San Antonio and Bexar County area.

POLICY ANALYSIS

This ordinance continues existing City policy of providing a community safety net to its most vulnerable residents and City policy of leveraging the funds of other entities as sources of emergency assistance.

FISCAL IMPACT

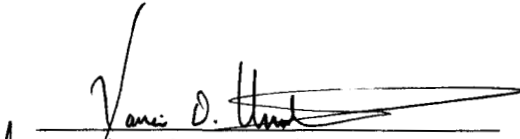
In CY 2005, CSBG funds leveraged more than \$10 million in additional grants, including the Supportive Housing Program, the Emergency Shelter Grant, Federal Emergency Management Assistance, Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids funding, as well as funding for Projects WARM, REAP, and AGUA. This action requires no general fund commitment.

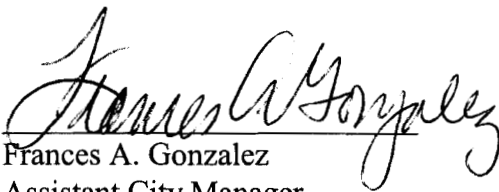
COORDINATION

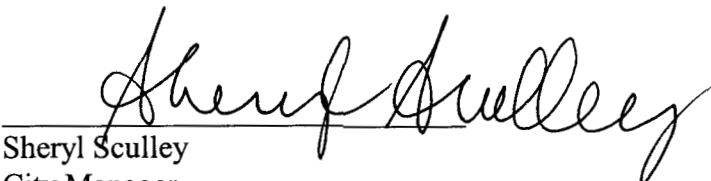
Coordination has occurred with the Finance Department, City Attorney's Office, and the Community Action Advisory Board.

SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS

The required Discretionary Contracts Disclosure Form is attached.


Dennis J. Campa, Director
Department of Community Initiatives


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