



ABAG



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional Prosperity Plan Steering Committee

DATE: March 7, 2014

FR: Vikrant Sood, Program Manager

W.I.: 1611

RE: Recommendation for Awards – Housing the Workforce Sub-Grant Program

### Background

The Housing Initiative will support the development of a regional early warning system (REWS) for displacement tool with approximately \$250,000 in sub-grants. Informed by current research and extensive data analysis this tool will help identify and track local communities that are likely to experience gentrification that would put low-income residents and small businesses at risk of displacement.

The REWS project will be a joint effort between the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), Housing Working Group (HWG) and Equity Collaborative, and University of California Berkeley (UCB).

The Housing Initiative will fund six community-based organizations (CBOs) to participate in the development of the tool, and hire a coordinator to manage communications among project partners and the CBOs. UCB will coordinate the development of the REWS with the “Developing a New Methodology for Analyzing Potential Displacement” project, funded by the California Air Resources Board.

The Housing Initiative has previously funded four CBOs to participate in the process: Marin Grassroots (Marin County), Peninsula Interfaith Action (East Palo Alto), Causa Justa::Just Cause (MacArthur BART Station, Oakland) and Working Partnerships USA (Downtown San Jose).

On Friday, January 3, 2014, MTC and ABAG, on behalf of the Regional Prosperity Plan Consortium, released a call for proposals to recruit the final two CBOs to engage under-represented communities from the Downtown Concord and one or more San Francisco neighborhoods. The Initiative has budgeted \$40,000 to fund the two CBOs for this work.

Information on the Sub-Grants was distributed using the following outreach methods:

- Announcement on the One Bay Area website at, <http://www.onebayarea.org/regional-initiatives/Bay-Area-Prosperity-Plan.html>.
- Announcement on the Basecamp Web Portal for the Regional Prosperity Plan at, <https://bayarea.basecamphq.com/projects/10428054-steering-committee/>.
- Email notification to community-based organizations on MTC’s mailing lists (more than 300 organizations across the Bay Area).

- Announcement to the Steering Committee and each of the three working groups for the Prosperity Plan.

Only community and non-profit organizations (tax-exempt entities) located within the nine county San Francisco Bay Area were eligible to apply for these sub-grants. MTC and ABAG hosted an applicant workshop on Thursday, January 16, 2014. Applications were due by 4pm, Friday, January 31, 2014.

### **Selection Panel**

The Joint Projects Team (JPT) was tasked with reviewing the applications and recommending awards to the Steering Committee. The JPT is composed of MTC and ABAG staff as well as co-chairs for each of the three working groups. Co-chairs who were unable to participate in the selection process due to a conflict of interest nominated a proxy.

<i>Selection Panel Membership</i>	<i>Name and Organization</i>
Staff	Therese Trivedi, MTC, Johnny Jaramillo, ABAG, and Miriam Zuk, UCB
Housing the Workforce Co-Chairs	Kara Douglas, Contra Costa County, James Pappas, California Housing Partnership Corporation, and Carlos Romero, Urban Ecology
Economic Prosperity Co-Chairs	Margot Prado, City of Oakland, and Christina Canaveral, Coleman Advocates
Equity Collaborative Co-Chairs	Jane Martin, POWER

### **Selection Process**

Two applications were received for the sub-grant program: one from the Chinatown Community Development Center (CCDC) for the Mission District and Chinatown neighborhoods in the City and County of San Francisco; and the other from the Michael Chavez Center (MCC) for the Downtown Concord neighborhood. The JPT reviewed the applications on Thursday, February 6, 2014, to formalize its recommendation to the Steering Committee.

The JPT evaluated the CBO applications using the following criteria that were weighted equally: level of experience and expertise in engaging disadvantaged communities in local or regional projects or processes; level of knowledge and understanding of affordable housing, gentrification, displacement and equity issues at the local level; level of active engagement in the neighborhood that is selected for the case study; and level of organizational and staff capacity to manage and implement the work, and track record of successfully completing multi-stakeholder processes.

### **Recommendations**

The JPT recommends awarding \$20,000 each to CCDC and MCC to participate in the development of the REWS in partnership with MTC, ABAG, HWG and UCB.