

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 8

Agenda Report Reviewed by:
City Manager: 

**CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: March 3, 2020
To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
From: City Councilmember Gurney
Subject: Use of City Council Initiatives Fund to allocate funding to specific initiatives or projects for FY 19-20 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 19-20: \$2500.00
Budget Remaining: \$2500.00

Account Code/Costs authorized in City Approved Budget  (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.

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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 2019-2020 budget includes a line item in the amount of \$2500 for Council Initiatives Fund. As of the writing of this staff report, the funds have not been allocated and each Councilmember has \$500 available for allocation.

Fiscal Analysis

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with the recommended action tonight as the item has been budgeted for in the FY 19-20 City Budget.

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.

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.