

Outside Agencies Funding Program

Goal

Obtain City Council's guidance for expanding the *Contributions to Outside Agencies* grant program to include funding opportunities for local organizations that may advance one or more of the City's strategic priority areas.

A historical perspective:

- The outside agency funding request process was initially open to established and newly emergent agencies.
 - Newly emergent agencies had to meet specific criteria and could receive funding for a maximum of three years.
- Due to 2008 recession, coupled with increasing requests for funding, City Council affirmed the decision to eliminate outside agency funding unless the services provided directly supported City departments (defined as work that, if ceased, would cause corresponding or larger increases in the budget or workload).
- This practice continues today.

Current Process ...

- Continues funding for historically supported outside agencies, particularly those with direct connections to a City department (“host departments”).
- Does not provide flexibility to financially accommodate unexpected opportunities.
- Only new agencies added have been connected to our governmental mission (ex. State mandated agency, Peninsula Alcohol Safety Action Program).

Current Process ... (Cont'd)

- Periodic inquiries are made concerning the City's outside agency funding process.

Currently Funded Agencies:

Categorized in one of the following four areas:

- **Dues and Memberships:** Membership fees for regional and national organizations such as National Civic League; Virginia Municipal League.
- **Organizational Support:** Regional service providers such as Hampton Roads Transit; Peninsula Regional Animal Shelter; Western Tidewater Regional Jail.

Currently Funded Agencies (Cont'd)

- **Tax Based Contributions:** Coliseum Central and Downtown Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and Elizabeth Lakes Special Assessment.
- **Civic and Community Support:** Agencies whose services are an *extension* of the services provided by a City department (“host department”). For example, Human Services is the “host department” for the Foodbank of the Virginia Peninsula and Transitions.

Strategic Fit of Currently Funded Agencies:

Economic Growth

- Downtown Hampton Development Partnership
- Hampton Housing Venture Rehabilitation Loan
- Hampton Military Affairs Committee
- Hampton Redevelopment and Housing Authority
- Hampton Roads Workforce Council
- Partnership for a New Phoebus/Phoebus Events
- Sister Cities
- Small Business Development Center of Hampton Roads

Educated Citizenry

- Hampton City Schools
- Virginia Air and Space Science Center
- Virginia Peninsula Community College

Strategic Fit of Currently Funded Agencies (Cont'd):

Family Resilience & Economic Empowerment

- Alternatives Incorporated
- Boys and Girls Club of the Virginia Peninsula
- Center for Child and Family Services
- Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters - Child Advocacy Center
- Children's Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families
- Eastern Virginia Medical School
- Foodbank of the Virginia Peninsula
- Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board

Strategic Fit of Currently Funded Agencies (Cont'd):

Family Resilience & Economic Empowerment

- Hampton Roads Community Action Program
- Hampton Roads Transit
- Insight Enterprises, Inc.
- Marching Elites
- Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities
- Peake Childhood Center
- Peninsula Agency on Aging, Inc.
- The Denbigh House
- Virginia Peninsula Commission on the Homeless

Strategic Fit of Currently Funded Agencies (Cont'd):

Living with Water

- Investments for this priority area is housed in the Capital Budget
 - RAIN Grants

Placemaking

- Hampton Cup Regatta
- “Love Your City” Grant Program
- Peninsula Stadium Authority

Strategic Fit of Currently Funded Agencies (Cont'd):

Safe and Clean Community

- Peninsula Alcohol Safety Action Program
- Peninsula Regional Animal Shelter
- Western Tidewater Regional Jail
- Transitions

Program Expansion Options

- The following expansion options has pros and cons to be weighed for the short-term and the long-term.
- Notably these options will expand efforts to specifically include more grass-roots and community-based organizations.

Key Evaluation Criteria

Competitive process

- Address service gaps
- Alignment with the strategic plan
- Greatest impact on achieving desired strategic plan outcomes

Option 1: Provide a General Funding Source - Similar to what we do now, but with funds allocated that could be awarded competitively during the year (short-term)

PROS

- Allows for flexibility
 - Funding amount
 - Strategic priority area
- Ensures advancement of strategic priorities by focusing on a grass-roots approach.

CONS

- Funding may not be evenly disbursed among the strategic priority areas.
- Could miss opportunities that materialize later in the year if funding is already committed.

Option 2: Allocate Funding for Each Strategic Priority Area (short-term)

PROS

- Ensure consistent attention is given to each strategic priority area.
- Maintain and support momentum within each strategic priority area city-wide.
- Ensures advancement of strategic priorities by focusing on a grass-roots approach.

CONS

- Limits flexibility to focus funds in a specific strategic area that may require more investment than others - equal funding does not necessarily result in equal impact (ex. addressing generational poverty may require more funding than supporting a placemaking event).
- Activities will fluctuate in cost, based on strategic priority area
- Increased funding will be necessary to avoid the appearance of inequity

Option 3: Outcome Sourcing would ask applicants to address specific outcome driven goals or tactics identified in the strategic plan (long-term)

PROS

- Target specific community and Council priorities included in the strategic plan (ex. proposals to address generational poverty, etc.).
- Build momentum by engaging the community in implementing a plan that they have endorsed.
- Ensures advancement of strategic priorities by focusing on a grass-roots approach.

CONS

- May need to develop reporting requirements for newly emergent agencies.
- Additional staff time required to monitor activities.
- Potentially more rigorous procurement process if need to extend beyond “non-profit” entities to address specific outcomes.

Discussion