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;;;BOSTON CITY COUNCIL
;;;12/12/2017 D

AND CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE ON
HEALTHY WOMEN, FAMILIES AND
COMMUNITIES.

I WANT TO REMIND EVERYONE AT
THIS HEARING IS BEING RECORDED
AND BROADCAST LIVE.

COMCAST EIGHT AND R CN8 TWO.
AND HAVE IT ON CREDIBLE
AUTHORITY THAT PEOPLE DO WATCH
THESE CHANNELS, SO HELLO TO
EVERYONE TUNING IN.

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELLPHONE
AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.
FOLLOWING THE SCHEDULED PORTION
OF THIS HEARING WE WILL TAKE
PUBLIC TESTIMONY.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TESTIFY
PLEASE BE SURE TO SIGN IN AND
CHECK OFF THE BOX TO TESTIFY.
I WANT TO WELCOME COMMISSIONER
EMILY -- TO DISCUSS -- TODAY THE
COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS DOCKET
1375, MESSAGE AND ORDER
AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON
TO ACCEPT AND EBBS PENNED THE
AMOUNT OF \$1,257,011.60 IN THE
FORM OF A GRANT.

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES -- BY THE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES -- EXECUTIVE
OFFICE OF ELDER AFFAIRS TO BE
ADMINISTERED BY THE ELDERLY
COMMISSION.

WILL FUND A COMPREHENSIVE AND
COORDINATED HEALTH AND SOCIAL
SERVICE SUBPOENA WHICH IS ELDERS
AND MAINTAINING INDEPENDENT
LIVING IN THEIR OWN COMMUNITY AS
LONG AS DESIRED.

AND DOCKET 1376, MESSAGE AND
ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF
BOSTON TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND A
GRANT OF \$474,233.75 FOR THE
AREA PLAN ADMINISTRATION AWARDED
BY U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES PASSED THROUGH
THE MASS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF
AFFAIRS TO BE ADMINISTERED BY

THE ELDERLY COMMISSION.
FUND EXPENSES OF THE AGENCY ON
AGING.

I HOPE WHAT YOU HAVE IS MORE
SUCCINCT AND COMPELLING THAN
WHAT I READ. IT IS A TONGUE
TWISTER.

>> I WOULD NOW LIKE TO TURN IT
OVER TO THE COMMISSIONER AND
OVERVIEW OF THE PLANS AND THE
PROGRAMS THEY WILL SUPPORT.

>> SURE.

THANK YOU, COUNSELOR.

I REALLY AM EXCITED TO BE HERE
TODAY.

AS YOU SAID, WE ARE BOSTON AREA
AGENCY ON AGING, OR TRIPLE A
WHICH MEANS THE FUNDS TO THE
OLDER AMERICANS ACT COME TO US,
AND WE ARE VERY PROUD TO SAY, GO
BACK OUT INTO THE COMMUNITY SO
MOST OF THESE ARE PASS THROUGH
FUNDS FOR US FOR DOCKET NUMBER
1375, FOR SUPPORTIVE SERVICES,
WE FUND, WE KEEP SOME MONEY
IN-HOUSE, WHICH PRIMARILY FUNDS
OUR COMMUNITY SERVICE ADVOCATES
WHO ARE OUT PROVIDING BENEFITS
APPLICATION ASSISTANCE,
INFORMATION, CONNECTING SENIORS
TO RESOURCES THAT THEY NEED OUT
IN THE COMMUNITY.

AND THEN WE GIVE OUT 30

COMMUNITY GRANTS.

WE HAVE 30 GRANTEES FOR THIS
FUNDING.

SO I AM NOT GOING TO GO INTO ALL
OF THE GRANT TEASE, GRANTEES BUT
A PORTION OF THE MONEY .. IS SET
ASIDE AS MANDATED BY THE STATE
AND FRANKLY VERY WELL DESERVED
FOR LEGAL SERVICES, SO LEGAL
SERVICES TO SUPPORT OLDER ADULTS
WHO MAY HAVE THEIR HEAT TURNED
OFF OR LIGHTS TURNED OFF OR NEED
ASSISTANCE KIND OF NAVIGATING
SYSTEMS AND GETTING LEGAL
SUPPORT FOR THEM.

WE FUND SENIOR PROGRAMMING IN
BOSTON, SO WE TRY TO BE -- WE
TRY TO FUND THINGS ACROSS ALL
NEIGHBORHOODS OF THE CITY,
FUNDING DIFFERENT PROGRAMS THAT
OLDER ADULT ACCOUNTS PARTICIPATE

IN, WHETHER THAT IS EXERCISE PROGRAMS, OTHER RECREATION, WITHIN THOSE PROGRAMS, WE FUND SERVICES LIKE TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION, SO A PROGRAM MAY BE HELPING AN OLDER ADULT KIND OF READ THEIR MAIL OR COMMUNICATE WITH PEOPLE THEY NEED TO COMMUNICATE WITH.

WE DO HOUSING ASSISTANCE WITH THAT FUNDING, SO SOME HOUSING SEARCH AND APPLICATION ASSISTANCE AND ALSO SOME SENIOR HOME REPAIR.

SO IT JUST IS A REAL RANGE OF THINGS WE PUT OUT.

WE HAVE A WHOLE GRANT MAKING PROCESS, WHERE PROVIDERS CAN APPLY TO BE ONE OF OUR GRANTEEES WITH THIS MONEY.

SO VERY KIND OF ABOVEBOARD TRANSPARENT PROCESS SO WE MAKE SURE WE ARE USING THE FUNDS WISELY AND SO THAT WE CAN MAKE SURE THEY ARE GOING TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE OLDER POPULATION.

>> SHOULD I MOVE ON TO THE SECOND ONE?

>> I JUST HAD A QUICK QUESTION BEFORE YOU ADVANCE FORWARD.

COULD YOU JUST SPEAK TO THE SERVICES THAT THIS GRANT WOULD FUND OR ARE SO CRITICAL IN MANY WAYS PHYSICAL VERY CREATIVE, SO WE WANT TO MAKE SURE WE ARE MEETING THE CONTINUUM OF ELDER SUPPORT IN THE CITY AND HELP PEOPLE AGING IN THE COMMUNITY AND REMAINING INDEPENDENT AND CONNECTED IS SO IMPORTANT.

HOW DO WE MAKE SURE THAT IS TRUE AND EQUITABLY THE CASE?

CAN YOU SPEAK A LITTLE BIT TO THE APPLICATION OF THESE GRANTS AND IF THEY ARE TARGETED TOWARD A SPECIFIC NEIGHBORHOOD OR GEOGRAPHY?

>> YES, SURE.

SO -- SO WHAT I CAN SAY IS THAT WE, AS PART OF OUR GRANT MAKING PROCESS, WE DO LOOK TO MAKE SURE THAT WE ARE TARGETING .., THAT WE ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE SERVICE IN ALL DIFFERENT AREAS OF THE

CITY, SO WE HAVE, WHEN PEOPLE APPLY FOR THE GRANT FROM US, WE HAVE A WHOLE KIND OF READING AND SCREENING TOOL WHERE WE HAVE MULTIPLE READERS SO IT IS A WHOLE PROCESS LIKE THAT. BUT THEN WE ADD KIND OF AN EXTRA LAYER INTO LOOKING AT THAT TO LOOK AT OUR GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS SO WE CAN MAKE SURE SENIORS IN ALL AREAS OF THE CITY ARE GETTING SERVED. I WILL ADD ANOTHER LITTLE PIECE TO THAT. WHICH IS TO POTENTIALLY BE MORE THAN YOU WANT TO KNOW, BUT WE ARE RESPONSIBLE AS THE TRIPLE A FOR DOING A NEEDS ASSESSMENT EVERY FOUR YEARS, SO UNDERSTANDING THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY OUR LOWER INCOME, OLDER ADULTS, AND ALSO WITHIN THAT NEEDS ASSESSMENT THEN WE ARE CRAFTING SOMETHING CALLED AN AREA PLAN, AND SOME OF THAT THEN IS USED TO KIND OF GUIDE HOW WE MAKE DECISIONS ON GRANT MAKING. >> AND JUST CONTEXTUALLY OUT OF BASIC CURIOSITY, I MEAN I KNOW BABY BOOMER POPULATION IS BOOMING, RIGHT? >> SURE IS. >> THAT'S WHY THE CITY IS SO COMMITTED TO MAKE SURE THAT WE ARE AGING WELL. SOME PEOPLE, THANK GOD MANY PEOPLE LIVE MUCH LONGER. I AM CURIOUS DOES THE ELDER POPULATION LIVE IN ONE COMMUNITY MORE THAN ANOTHER? >> WE ANECDOTALLY BELIEVE IT IS TRUE BUT I WANT TO HEAR IT OFFICIALLY FROM YOU. >> SO WHAT I WOULD SAY IS THE LAST KIND OF OFFICIAL NUMBER IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS ARE BASED ON 2010 AND WE HAVE GROWN, WE HAD ABOUT 88,000 OLDER ADULTS NOW. THEY ESTIMATE IN 2015 WE HAD ABOUT 103,000 SO WE HAVE GROWN EXPONENTIALLY FOR FOLKS OVER THE AGE OF 60. BUT WHAT I WILL SAY IS WEST ROXBURY HAS THE OLDER PERCENTAGE

OF OLDER ADULTS SO BACK IN 2010
THEY WERE 24 PERCENT OVER 60.
DORCHESTER OBVIOUSLY HAS THE
LARGEST NUMBER OF OLDER ADULTS,
JUST BECAUSE IT IS OUR BIGGEST
NEIGHBORHOOD.
BUT WE DO HAVE THOSE STATISTICS
AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE.
WE DID A DATA REPORT THAT WE
HAVE UP ON OUR WEBSITE THAT
WHERE WE LOOKED AT 2010 CENSUS
IN CORROBORATION WITH
GERONTOLOGY INSTITUTE, FOR
DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH ON AGING SO
WE HAVE A LOT OF GREAT
INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE THAT
KIND OF DIGS DOWN DEEP AND MORE
INTO ALL OF THAT.
>> WONDERFUL COMMISSIONER, YOU
CONFIRMED WHAT I BELIEVED
ANECDOTALLY TO BE TRUE IN THE
NEIGHBORHOODS YOU CITED.
BUT JUST AGAIN, THANK YOU FOR
WHAT YOU DO EVERY DAY FOR YOUR
SERVICE TO THE CITY AND
SPECIFICALLY FOR THIS
POPULATION.
YOU ARE LOVED BY SO MANY AND WE
ARE SO GLAD YOU ARE STILL HERE.
DID YOU WANT TO SPEAK ABOUT THE
OTHER GRANT?
>> SURE, I WILL, BUT I WILL ALSO
SAY THAT I HAVE A GREAT TEAM.
>> YES, YES, THAT IS TRUE AS
WELL.
>> SO THE SECOND ONE, THE DOCKET
1376, THIS IS FOR TITLE III A OF
THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT MONEY
AND THAT IS ADMINISTRATION.
SO THIS MONEY IS USED TO SUPPORT
OUR ADMINISTRATION OF THE GRANT,
SALARIES, FRINGE, OFFICE
SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT, DEFINITELY
NOT AS EXCITING AS THE OTHER
TITLE III B, BUT REALLY
ESSENTIAL TO BEING ABLE TO
OPERATE THIS CORRECTLY AND THERE
ARE SOME OTHER -- THERE ARE
OTHER PIECES OF THE TITLE 3 WORK
THAT WE WILL BE BACK HERE IN
JANUARY EXPLAINING, THAT WE ARE
NOT TALKING ABOUT TODAY.
>> SO THERE ARE OTHER THINGS
THAT WILL COME BACK, BUT THIS A

GRANT KIND OF IS THE
ADMINISTRATION OF THE FULL TITLE
III SPECTRUM OF GRANTS.

>> AND WHAT WOULD BE THE IMPACT
IF YOU WERE NOT -- IF THESE
GRANTS WERE NOT APPROVED?

>> OH, MY GOODNESS.

WE DO SO MUCH WORK THROUGH THIS
MONEY AND REALLY ABOUT BOTH THE
WORK WE DO HERE AT THE CITY, BUT
ALSO BUILDING A CITY WIDE AGING
NETWORK THROUGH THIS MONEY.

SO I THINK THE IMPACT WOULD BE
HUGE.

WE SERVICE, SERVE A SIGNIFICANT
NUMBER OF OLDER ADULTS IN THE
CITY WITH THIS FUNDING.

SO.

>> WE DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT
IT?

>> WE DON'T WANT IT TO GO AWAY.
IT IS FEDERAL DOLLARS.

WE HOPE IT WILL STAY WITH US.

>> ALWAYS.

VERY GOOD.

>> ANY OTHER TESTIMONY?

>> NOPE.

>> OKAY.

ALL RIGHT THEN.

IS THERE ANY PUBLIC TESTIMONY?

>> ALL RIGHT.

WELL, I DON'T HAVE ANY
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS SO I WANT
TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR TESTIMONY
FOR BEING HERE TODAY AND AGAIN
FOR YOU AND THE ENTIRE TEAM FOR
THE CITY ON BEHALF OF -- WHAT IS
THE MOST APPROPRIATE -- TELL ME,
WE HAVE, WE VACILLATE BETWEEN
SENIOR, ELDER, OLDER AMERICANS,
WHAT SHOULD WE --

>> I THINK OLDER ADULTS ACTUALLY
WE RECENTLY HEARD A NEW TERM,
OLDER PERSON.

>> WOW.

>> BUT I WOULD SAY THAT ALL
DIFFERENT SEGMENTS OF THE
POPULATION OVER THE AGE OF 60
LIKE TO BE CALLED DIFFERENT
THINGS.

>> OKAY.

>> ALL RIGHT.

>> OLDER ADULT IS GOOD.

>> OLDER ADULT.

OKAY.

I PREFER THAT TOO, PERSONALLY.
ALL RIGHT.

WELL, THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING
YOU ARE DOING FOR OLDER ADULT
POPULATION IN THE CITY AND I
LOOK FORWARD TO THE REPORTING TO
MY COLLEAGUES TOMORROW.

WE WILL ADJOURN.

>> THANK YOU.