



Legislation Text

File #: 1956-2023, **Version:** 1

This ordinance authorizes the Director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion to enter into a grant agreement for \$100,000.00 with the NOW Foundation in support of their Small Business Ready Technical Assistance Program.

The NOW Foundation, a not-for-profit agency, provides resources, support, and assistance to small minority-owned businesses to help them become business ready to manage, run, grow, and profit.

Additionally, the NOW Foundation provides programming around business organization, marketing, corporate readiness, access and exposure, and resources.

The NOW Foundation's programming works as a supportive bridge for the under-served creative arts and culinary communities to improve their access and ability to successfully compete in their respective industries. The programs are marketed through an online network, partnerships and direct events.

Fiscal Impact: This legislation authorizes the transfer of \$100,000.00 between object classes in the General Fund for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and authorizes an expenditure of \$100,000.00.

To authorize the Director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion to enter into a grant agreement for \$100,000.00 with the NOW Foundation in support of their Small Business Ready Technical Assistance program; to authorize a transfer of appropriations within the general fund; and to authorize the expenditure from the general fund. (\$100,000.00).

WHEREAS, the City of Columbus has seen an increased need to support small minority owned businesses development and sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the NOW Foundation provides programming and support, particularly to businesses within under-served industries; to improve access and ability for small minority owned businesses to grow and compete for business; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to authorize a transfer of \$100,000.00 within the Office of Diversity and Inclusion general fund; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council are committed to improving economic stability, stronger health and wellbeing, and safer, more resilient neighborhoods; now therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

SECTION 1. City Council finds and determines that it is a proper public purpose to support and assist small, minority-owned businesses with technical assistance to help them grow and become ready to operate and manage their businesses. Council authorizes the Director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion to enter into a grant agreement for \$100,000.00 with the NOW Foundation, a not-for profit entity, in support of their Small Business Ready Technical Assistance Program.

SECTION 2. That the City Auditor is authorized and directed to transfer and appropriate \$100,000.00 between object classes within the general fund for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

SECTION 3. That the expenditure of \$100,000.00 or so much thereof that may be needed is authorized in Fund 1000 General Fund, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion - Division 4003 Object Class 05 pursuant to the action authorized in SECTION 1 of this Ordinance, per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

SECTION 4. That the funds necessary to carry out the purpose of this ordinance are deemed appropriated and the City Auditor shall establish such accounting codes as necessary.

SECTION 5. That the City Auditor is authorized to make any accounting changes to revise the funding source for all contracts or contract modifications associated with this ordinance.

SECTION 6. That this ordinance shall take effect at the earliest date allowable by law.