



Legislation Text

File #: 3476-2023, **Version:** 1

This ordinance will authorize the Director of the Columbus Department of Recreation and Parks to enter into a one-year contract with the Columbus Urban League (CUL) for the amount of \$429,500.00 to provide violence interruption and crisis response activities that include responding to specific violent confrontations, working to mediate and diffuse conflict tensions, and actively promoting peace building among our youth. Contractor shall maintain a 24-hour, 7-day-a-week schedule to respond to calls regarding youth violence confrontations such as shootings, aggravated assaults, homicides, and other violent incidents.

The Contractor shall respond to incidents or conflicts that are within their assigned zone(s) or may impact their assigned zone(s). The Contractor shall also provide support services to victims' families and friends. Support services will be provided after making initial contact with victims' families and friends at the scene of an incident, hospital or at a time and location chosen by the victims' families and friends. Support services can also include Contractor attending funerals, vigils, peace marches, etc. Additionally, Community Intervention Workers shall participate in Neighborhood Violence Interruption (NVI) activities and initiatives focusing on reducing youth violence citywide and improving community collaborations to support the NVI initiative. The Columbus Urban League will hold a surety bond in the amount of \$100,000.00 and Certificate of Insurance as required by the City. This ordinance is contingent on the passage and issuance of Ordinance 3012-2023, authorizing the 2024 Recreation and Parks operating budget.

Principal Parties:

Columbus Urban League
788 Mt. Vernon Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43203
(614) 257-6300
Contractor Compliance Number: 006073
Contract Compliance Expiration Date: June 9, 2025

Areas Affected: The primary focus areas of Columbus Urban League will be east and south zones.

Bid Waiver Justification: A bid waiver is being requested in order to keep the consistency with the program participants and the vendor (interventionists). They have been working with the NVI program for several years; they know the program participants, the youth and young adults in the community and have established relationships with them. It is important to keep the continuity of these relationships and trust. A new vendor would have to come in and start from the very beginning to obtain this knowledge, understanding, and trust.

Fiscal Impact:

The amount of \$429,500.00 is budgeted for this purpose in the 2024 Recreation and Parks operating fund 2285.

Benefits to the Public: Providing violence intervention and prevention strategies with a primary focus on 14-23 year-olds.

Community Input/Issues: Addressing need for increased positive youth engagement, development and mentorship to combat youth involved violence.

Master Plan Relation: This contract will support the Recreation and Parks Master Plan by implementing strategies to vulnerable residents in targeted neighborhoods to ensure equal access to critical resources and opportunities for success

for all.

To authorize the Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks to enter into contract with Columbus Urban League for services related to the implementation of the 2024 Neighborhood Violence Intervention Program; to authorize the expenditure of \$429,500.00 from the Recreation and Parks Operating Fund; and to waive the competitive bidding provisions of Chapter 329 of the Columbus City Codes. (\$429,500.00)

WHEREAS, it is necessary to authorize the Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks to enter into a contract with the Columbus Urban League for services related to the Neighborhood Violence Intervention (NVI) Program; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to authorize the expenditure of \$429,500.00 from the Recreation and Parks Operating Fund 2285; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance is contingent upon the passage of Ordinance 3012-2023, and issuance of the 2024 Recreation and Parks operating budget; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Department of Recreation and Parks to waive the competitive bidding requirements of Section 329.15 of the Columbus City Codes because this vendor has intrinsic knowledge and understanding of the NVI program and its evolution providing continuity of service; **NOW, THEREFORE**

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

SECTION 1. That the Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks is authorized to enter into a one-year contract with the Columbus Urban League for services related to the Neighborhood Violence Intervention Program in an amount not to exceed \$429,500.00.

SECTION 2. That for the purpose stated in Section 1, the expenditure of \$429,500.00 or so much thereof as may be necessary, is authorized to be expended from the Recreation and Parks Operating Fund 2285 per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

SECTION 3. That this Council finds it in the best interest of the City to waive the competitive bidding provisions of Columbus City Codes Section 329.15 to enter into this contract and does hereby waive said competitive bidding provisions.

SECTION 4. That this ordinance is contingent upon the passage of Ordinance 3012-2023, authorizing the 2024 Recreation and Parks operating budget.

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 legislation.

SECTION 6. 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 7. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.