July 23, 2020

TO: Board of Library Commissioners

FROM: John F. Szabo, City Librarian

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION/GOOGLE LIBRARIES BUILD BUSINESS (LBB) GRANT AWARD OF $85,000 FOR THE SEA UN VENDEDOR AMBULANTE EXITOSO EN LOS ANGELES/SUCCESSFUL SIDEWALK VENDING PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020/21

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Library Commissioners adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the Board of Library Commissioners accepts the American Library Association/Google Libraries Build Business (LBB) grant award of $85,000. The award will be distributed in three installments. The first installment is $28,333.34 and is being delivered at the start of the grant period; the additional two installments of $23,333.33 will be delivered midway and then after the submission of the final grant report. The official grant period is August 2020 through November of 2021. The funds are designated for the Sea un Vendedor Ambulante Exitoso en Los Angeles/Successful Street Vending for the Los Angeles Public Library’s New Americans Services.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the funds be deposited in Trust Fund 831, Account 359.

FINDINGS:

1. On July 15, 2020, the American Library Association and Google announced that the Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) Libraries Build Businesses (LBB) grant application for $85,000.00 was awarded and is designated for Sea un Vendedor Ambulante Exitoso en Los Angeles/Successful Street Vending.

2. These funds must be accepted by the Board of Library Commissioners to activate this award.

3. These funds will be used to create the “Sea un vendedor ambulante exitoso/Successful Street Vending” program to empower the Los Angeles street vending community. The project will feature microenterprise readiness skills like bookkeeping, credit building and mentoring. While libraries are closed, virtual tools such as Cell-Ed and Zoom will supply workshop content, coaching and some technical assistance for users in both English and in Spanish; methods of service delivery will
be flexible to adapt to changing circumstances. This multi-faceted approach will lead to entrepreneurs feeling supported and confident about understanding the steps they need to take to be successful entrepreneurs.

4. The Libraries Build Business grant funds will be used to create sustainable and buildable program elements to further the goal of helping sidewalk vendors to become business owners. Staff development is also a feature of the enhanced program and will create a stronger internal network for appropriate referrals and explanations.

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