

From: [Jennifer Smith](#)
To: [City Clerk Group](#)
Cc: [Paula Perotte](#); [Kyle Richards](#); [Dana Grossi](#)
Subject: June 4 - Item D2 RFPs - Homelessness Prevention
Date: Thursday, May 30, 2019 11:38:39 AM

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

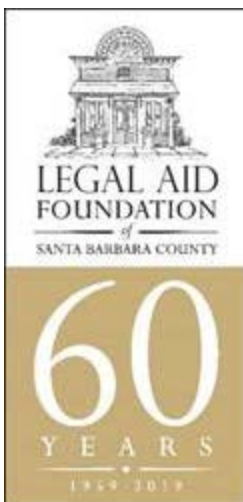
I am thrilled to see that the city is supporting efforts to prevent and combat homelessness. As rents continue to skyrocket and more people retire and live on fixed incomes, many more families, seniors, and others are at risk of housing insecurity and homelessness.

I noticed that the draft RFP does not indicate how much budget has been allocated for Homelessness Prevention services, nor does it indicate whether there is a minimum or maximum size grant proposal (unless I missed something). I think it will be important to provide some guidance to applicants about the general size of any proposed grant, as that will impact how a program proposal is crafted. Many agencies recently competed for millions in state emergency funds for these types of efforts (as an example), and the size of these grant opportunities can vary considerably by jurisdiction. Even if the city doesn't have a firm minimum or maximum grant amount, it might suggest an average or general range.

Sincerely,

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June 3, 2019

To: Mayor Perotte and City Council Members
City of Goleta, CA

SUBJECT: Requests for Proposals (RFP) for Support to Other Agencies Funding

The League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara is pleased to see that the City of Goleta has funding for economic development.

The City of Goleta's RFP for economic development describes the appropriate submissions criteria based on the 2017-19 Strategic Plan. However, the RFP only focused on a portion of the strategic plan, which restricted appropriate submissions to a subset of possible applicants.

The RFP indicates that the organizations should "support business start-up, retention, and expansion, as well as events that attract vendors and tourists." However, Goleta's economic development program needs to target assistance to those organizations that need, and will use the development funding to benefit the City. Supporting the organizations that provide economic and community development should include those that help the underserved and more vulnerable communities. For example, organizations that help new child care facilities take off benefit those who need assistance. Organizations that offer training and support for potential new home or mobile businesses benefit those who most need the support.

In addition, the strategy of SUPPORT ECONOMIC VITALITY suggests that Goleta should "Support organizations, programs, and policies that facilitate affordable housing for the Goleta workforce." This would be a valuable way of supporting economic development in Goleta. Note that Housing is also included in the earlier Goleta Economic Development plan.

Finally, the Strategic Plan includes a strategy of RETURN OLD TOWN TO A VITAL CENTER OF THE CITY and included the Strategic Goal to Support the continued vigor and vitality in Old Town. The approach sought to provide "Strategic efforts to restore this area include enhancing the physical and economic environment while preserving the unique character of the area. As the City matures, there is a growing desire to establish a stronger identity for the community and create a greater sense of place."

The League urges you to amend the RFP to support the organizations that enable new businesses start up in Old Town or to enhance the environment for businesses located there.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Baker,
Co-President for Programs & Advocacy
League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara