

**CFCI ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**CART Transcript**  
**March 20, 2025**  
**Earvin Magic Johnson Park – John Hall Room**  
**12645 Wadsworth Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90059**

>> CHAIR STEELE: What's going on brother. Okay. We're at quorum yes. Judge is here too, yeah. Quorum. All right. I'd like to bring the meeting to order today. What's up everybody, how are you all doing it's great to be back at magic Johnson, the park is looking beautiful today, a beautiful day outside, nice and warm, you know, first day of spring. Wonderful day for in depth conversations about how we take care of community. I'm excited to continue to share space with you all.

Really, really anticipating today's agenda. So let us please start off with the disclosures.

>> Thank you I will now read the meeting disclosures. This meeting is being recorded for the purpose of meeting minutes. By remain not guilty this meeting you consent to being recorded this is a public meeting and subject to the Brown act since conversations and statements on the chat are not visible to people on the telephone and who are unable to participate, the chat function is limited to technical assistance. There will be no response nor forwarding of any public comments to the advisory committee members. If if members of the public would like to provide comment please do so during the comment period for that specific jaepd item or general comment period. For closed caption assistance CART services are available. You may access by clicking on the stream ting link off the reading of these disclosures. When accessing Zoom through a computer browser scroll to reactions at the bottom tab and you will see the raise hand feature. When accessing Zoom through the smartphone browser scroll to more at the bottom tab and you will see a drop down menu with the raise hand feature. For anyone experiencing online technical difficulties, telephone dial in information will also be provided in the chat. During public comment telephone participants may press star 9 to raise your hand and star 6 to unmute. For Spanish interpretation please click on the global icon and select Spanish. Written public comments are to be committed to JCOD at LA county.gov. It should be submitted by 5 p.m. the day before the meeting. These public comments will be shared with the advisory committee members prior to the meeting and will be reflected in the meeting minutes. Written comments received after 5 p.m. the day before the meeting through end of the meeting will be made part of the public record for the meeting. However, advisory committee members may not have the opportunity to review those comments prior to acting on an agenda item. This concludes the meeting disclosures. Chair Steele I pass it back to you

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>> CHAIR STEELE: Thank you very very much. Man that was really quick reading of the disclosure agreements. I appreciate that. Let us please move to the roll. Roll call.

>> We will now conduct the roll call to expedite this process we ask all advisory committee members to be ready with the microphone before your name is called so you can be ready to announce your attendance promptly. If you are unable to unmute yourself please raise your hand on the Zoom platform so we can assign cohost privileges to you. If you are calling on your phone you can unmute yourself by pressing star 6. You can raise your hand with star 9. If you are participating remotely please indicate this by stating present remotely under just cause or present remotely under emergency circumstances when your name is called. After roll call is complete we will review the list of members attending remotely. For those attending under just cause we will ask you to briefly state your reason for remote attendance. As a reminder, no further action is required for just cause. For those attending under emergency circumstances, we will ask you to briefly describe the emergency necessitating your remote attendance. Following these descriptions, committee will take a vote to confirm your participation under emergency circumstances. We will now begin the roll call by last name alphabetically. When your name is called say present or present remotely. Member Armstead or alternate.

>> MEMBER ARMSTEAD: Present.

>> Member casual hall or present.

>> Present.

>> Member Cassandra or alternate.

>> Present.

>> Masz Contreras or alternate.

>> Present.

>> Member Crunk or alternate.

>> Present.

>> Member Cyrus-Franklin or alternate. Member Eakins or alternate.

>> Present.

>> Member Tsai or alternate. Member Fuentes-Miranda or alternate. Member Garcia or alternate. Member Hong or alternate. Member Lewis or alternate.

>> CHAIR STEELE: She's here in the hallway. I'm looking at her right now in the haul.

>> Member Lobianco or alternate.

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- >> Alternate Laura white present.
- >> Member O'Brien or alternate. Member Schoonover or alternate.
- >> Alternate present.
- >> Member Scorza or alternate.
- >> Alternate present.
- >> Member Soto or alternate.
- >> Present remotely I'm 15 minutes away from the meeting.
- >> Memo Steele or alternate.
- >> Present.
- >> Member Stevens.
- >> Present.
- >> Member Joey Williams or alternate.
- >> Alternate present.
- >> Member Michael Williams. Member Wong or alternate.
- >> Alternate present.
- >> Thank you this meeting as reached quorum.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Fantastic let us please go through the acknowledgements. I'll read acknowledgements and we'll get to community agreements. First the CFCI advisory committee land acknowledgement. The land beneath our feet is the ancestral lands of people who lived in Los Angeles County and surrounding areas for thousands of years. I would like for us to acknowledge the Gabrieleno Tongva people the Fernandeno Tatavium tribe and the Ventureno Chumash people. These native people understood the respected land and connected the respected the four legged creatures and roamed the earth freely and winged ones and everything in the ocean. Their hearts told them never to take more than they can use, important note, and always give back to mother earth. These amazing people are still here today living and breathing amongst us and still giving back to the community that surrounds us Aheehe he, thank you to our ancestors. Moving to the labor acknowledgement. Most modern day U.S. Constitutions have bend from the unaddressed legacy of the stolen labor at this foundation of this nation and vast and inequitable wealth. We respectfully acknowledge our debt to the enslaved people primarily of after cap decent whose labor grew the economy of a nation that refused to recognize their humanity. While the 13th Amendment technically ended slavery we know slavery's impacts are still felt by countless people forced through violence threat and coercion to work in the U.S. we

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recognize our debt to exploited workers past and present whose labor was and continues to be stolen through unjust practices. Excuse me. We acknowledge our collective debt to the indigenous people of this land whose labor was forced and exploited the Chinese immigrants who built railroads that alternate for westward American development, Japanese Americans whose properties and livelihoods were taken from them while incarcerated in World War II. Thing migrate workers from the Philippines Mexico, central and South America who have worked the Pacific Northwest farms and can Reese. We recognize the immigrants American born workers of African, Asian and central and south American decent who still contribute to the well-being of our collective community. We recognize that our economy continues to rely on the simplified labor of incarcerated people largely people of color who earn pennies an hour while generating billions in goods and services each year I'll add even protecting our lives. And we know there are many other people too numerous to mention who are prevented from reaping the true value of their labor by unjust systems and cruel practices. We mourn their loss of life, liberty and opportunity. We acknowledge that the theft of labor is the theft of generational progress. Nearly all people of color have been robbed of the opportunity and wealth that their ancestors might otherwise have passed onto them. We acknowledge them.

Together my friends, again I want to underscore as we discussed in the meeting a week and a half -- two weeks ago that we came together, about the importance of the community agreements. Because these agreements set the table for how we can collaborate and the discussions that we are into now in some of the more -- in the more difficult times of this budget cycle, and what the county has gone through and what the country is going through.

We're criers, us to be able to work collaboratively so we can move forward on behalf of the people that we represent, the people of this county that deserve the best of us. And so as we read these community agreements, I ask that, you know, you really take heed and take to heart what is actually here as we move forward to work collaboratively. So I'll start with be respectful of the diverse voices being represented and remain open-minded.

>> Be mindful of power dynamics in the space as well as of the historical disenfranchisement of black and indigenous communities. Accordingly, prioritize and defer to community throughout this process.

>> Be mindful of the diverse audience you're representing to and make sure you speak with clarity.

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>> Be collaborative.

>> Assume best intentions.

>> Challenge the idea, not the person.

>> Remember we're here to center the Black, Brown, and indigenous communities and other communities that have been most impacted by the carceral system, low income communities, trans and gender nonconforming folks, et cetera.

>> Remember.

>> Defer to community.

>> Transparency and follow-through.

>> Be intentional about hearing and allowing spaces for additional voices to be uplifted.

>> Be an active participant and try and be succinct in thoughts and contributions.

>> Let equity lead the way.

>> Make space spaces for youth voices.

>> As much as possible, allow community members to finish their sentence/thought during the public comment.

>> Review community agreements before every meeting and amend as needed.

>> Begin CFCI advisory committee meetings with the land acknowledgement statement recognizing and respecting the indigenous peoples of the land we now call Los Angeles County. Thank you very much everyone we have a good amount to cover today. We want to move immediately by taking appropriate action on the minutes from February 20, 2025 as well as March 6, 2025. March 6 meeting as a reminder was the emergency meeting that we came through and yeah, we didn't take the moment because there was so much to cover in that meeting to approve the minutes from February 20th so we need to cover both.

>> I move do you want to do they will together or separate

>> CHAIR STEELE: We can do them together.

>> I move we approve the February 20th and March 6 meeting minutes.

>> CHAIR STEELE: It's been moved.

>> I'll second the motion.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Seconded by member Fuentes-Miranda. Moved by Member Lewis. Any unreadiness on this any corrections needed to be made? If not let's move to public comment.

>> This commences the public comment period of this agenda item. The public

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comment period during the meetings will be one minute per person. For those online who would like to provide public comment be use the raised hand feature now. We will call on you in the order your hand raised. Please state your full name for the minutes before beginning your public comment. Your hand will be lowered once you have completed your public comment. For those on the telephone be dial star 9 to raise your hand. We will say your name or the last digits of your telephone number when it is your turn. Dial star 6 to unmute yourself. When accessing Zoom through a computer browser or smartphone Zoom app scroll to reactions and you will see the raise hand feature. We will begin public comment for approval of these meeting minutes do we have any public comments in the room? Seeing no hands in the room we would like to go online. There are no hands online. Seeing no hands raised this concludes the public comment period. As a reminder in advance of our next public meeting if you would like to submit a written public comment please send an email to JCOD at LA County.gov by 5 p.m. the day before the meeting I'll pace it to you chair Steele.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Thank you so much everyone for your participation. Let's get to it. First thing we want to talk through so just context. Out of the meeting last.

>> Member steel we need to do the vote.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Right I'm sorry we need to do the vote. My bad. Can we move to the vote.

>> We will now conduct the vote for this motion and we will be using a similar process as the roll call. Again we a ask all committee members to be ready with the microphone before your name is called when I call on your name please indicate your vote of yes, no, abstain. Member Carbajal or alternate.

>> Aye.

>> Member Castillo or alternate.

>> Aye.

>> Member Contreras or alternate.

>> Aye.

>> Member Crunk.

>> Aye.

>> Member Eakins.

>> Aye.

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>> Member Cyrus-Franklin or alternate. Member Tsai or alternate. Member Fuentes-Miranda or alternate.

>> Aye.

>> Member Garcia or alternate.

>> Abstain.

>> Member Hong or alternate. Member Lewis or alternate.

>> Aye.

>> Member Lobianco or alternate.

>> Aye.

>> Member, O'Brien or alternate. Member Schoonover or alternate.

>> Ab tain.

>> Member Scorza or alternate.

>> Aye.

>> Member Soto or alternate.

>> Aye.

>> Member Steele or alternate.

>> Aye.

>> Member Stevens.

>> Aye.

>> Member Joey Williams or alternate.

>> Aye.

>> Member Myk'l Williams. Member Wong or alternate.

>> Aye.

>> The motion passes.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Thank you very much. Now, getting to item 8, miles what's up. What's going on man. I do want to note as well for everyone who is in the room, I want to say Amity provided snacks. We've got snacks in the building. It's this afternoon some folks probably hadn't had time to get something to eat yet. Please feel free that's everybody in the room feel free to grab some snacks, please. We don't want to leave anything here you know what I'm saying. So let's go ahead and enjoy, enjoy, please.

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So we had a very robust discussion last time we came together. I want to say thank you to each and every one of you for the candor, for the truth telling but also for the mindset toward getting to solutions. Right.

Of course we didn't finalize and get to the solutions we wanted to have but I think we're moving until the right direction toward that end and that included us discussing what the game plan can be and that includes us having the county departments who have the carry over requests being able to have a conversation about what happened, why those dollars weren't spent, what the plan is moving forward so that we can start to really get a sense of what dollars that we're going to be reclaiming for reallocation, to be able to provide towards recommendations. It includes a community engagement process around determining what those reallocations can look like for recommendations to the board of supervisors.

And thirdly, advocating for us to be able to have the space for that to take place. Right. And that advocacy started with having discussions with county CEOs's office. I'll be honest there was a memo, a board letter that went out the day after our meeting that was providing some guidance where funds can actually come from towards some of the things that the board of supervisors was looking for particularly for a fund toward the people who are impacted by the fires. Once we got a chance to take a look at that, called the CEO's office immediately to get a sense what's going on. As you remember the day we had prior, there was a discussion around CEO working with us to provide space and opportunity to give recommendations from this body. So this recommendation felt like it was in contrast. We had a really good discussion with them on Monday and today we want to make sure there's an understanding between Measure J and we did this before with you we're coming back again, what the written directives are for Measure J and also what the board policy states as far as the situation that we're in today where there is a difference between ongoing funds and also one time funds. I think we got a really good education about the difference between the two in the last discussion. And who is responsible for providing the recommendations to the board of supervisors when it comes to these two allocated areas. If I could have CEO who is with us here today and also Vincent here as well. I should also state in all transparency you all, I personally even though the board policy may state of the directive from the CEO coming from the recommendations, I think we have given our -- say again. I don't want to get before, I'll let them talk details but I personally feel like we have set a precedence in this body how to go about doing this. And so our goal again like we



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started with last week's meeting is to find consensus on how we can move forward together. So that has been -- that was the nature of the conversation from our point of view as leadership and I was flanked in that meeting with member Castillo as well as Fuentes-Miranda on behalf of this body to talk through it.

Yes, I want to give the floor member Knight.

>> You mentioned there was a memo released the day after our meeting is that in the packet or a separate document

>> CHAIR STEELE: That is a separate document and I should mention that the report that was sent to the board of supervisors on the 7th was in response to a request from the board of supervisors around trying to find an understanding where funds are that could be put toward the fire relief fund for individual families I want to state. So it wasn't necessarily a report or letter to this body, but because it was public documents and it mentions CFCI I was like whoa what are we talking about.

So that was how we actually reached out and got in touch with them as far as I was concerned. But yes. Would you like to walk us through CEO points of view and not points of view but also just kind of the stating of the facts around the board policy and also Measure J you got it.

>> Good afternoon members. I can't hear whether or not speaking up but I'm assuming you can hear me. Queen King with CEO budget. I will lean closely into the microphone so you can hear me. If I scoot back and speak too softly please remind me. Chair Steele thank you for the introduction and for recapping the meeting of two weeks ago and the memo with regard to wildfire response, which is linked to the document that we included in the agenda.

If any of the members are using their smartphones or computers, the link should take you directly to that memo. I have a couple of minutes of comments and then I'll walk you through the first two pages of the materials not all 15 pages, and then I'm available for questions and as needed. You probably already know the County is marked by an extraordinary set of financial challenges, threats to federal and state funding, declining property taxes and ongoing losses related to the fires. CFCI funding is a percentage of the County's budget related to both revenues and restricted funding and is therefore subject to

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the same pressures. County workers and departments are being asked to make do with less, much like those at other local government organizations including the city of LA.

In a typical budget process County departments and their clients have significantly more needs than the budget will allow and the CEO and the board work to ensure that we use the County's limited resources to address as many board and County priorities as possible. This year is even more challenging than a typical year. We know also there's a sizable amount of one time CFCI funding that is sitting idle while the need in our communities is greater than ever. We want to start talking about a plan for putting that money to work and we are looking forward to engaging with you on that.

Three key things I wanted to highlight before we go any further. This is all one time funding so we like you want to be attentive to setting Upjohn going obligations that are funded by one time sources. The money of course must be used to support the nine categories of allowable expenses under alternatives to incarceration and direct community investment that are laid out in Measure J and the board policy and of course they should follow the objectives laid out by the committee in its spending plan recommendations for years one, two, three and four.

Last point only the board can prove reinvestment of unspent one time CFCI funding. As I mentioned at the March 6 meeting, CEO doesn't have the authority to reallocate any funding between any programs where there's a perhaps a greater need and less need. Those decisions can only be made by the board.

For the CEO, it's critical that the funding be put to work. We were listening at your most recent meeting on March 6. We hear your concerns and I think we share many of them. CFCI funding shouldn't be allowed to accumulate year over year without a plan to put it to work in our communities. We agree with everything you've said in that regard. All of our communities have substantial needs in all areas of DCI and ETI. Ultimately as well, I think we have the same goals that you do. We agree with you that the counties should do everything we can to get the funding out into the community where it can do some good. We agree with you that the county should be investing CFCI funding in-housing, alternatives to incarceration and community programs.

Our priority is to put the funding to work now to get it out into the community where it can do the most good. CBO's and County departments need funding for programs. Many

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of which are in the same focus areas that the community -- that the committee has prioritized in its prior spending plans. As the chair noted, about a month ago, in response to the repeat fires, the board directed the CEO to identify funding to support eviction relief for individuals affected by the fires. In that board motion, the board instructed CEO to look at all available funding sources including American Rescue Plan, measure H homelessness sales tax and other funds. In the report back to the board which, again, is linked I think on page 2 of the handout that we provided, CEO informed the board that we are going to recommend using 9 million of one time CFCI funding to support the wildfire eviction relief program and we also reported in the memo we are committed to coming back to this body to the advisory committee to provide an informational briefing on the one time funding recommendations that we will make to the board.

Turning to the handout very quickly. I'll walk through the first couple of sentences in the first two pages. I think chair Steele

>> CHAIR STEELE: Can you underscore the last thing you just said about the coming back to this body?

>> Sure.

>> CHAIR STEELE: I want to make sure the language on what we're talking about here is congruent but go for it.

>> We stated in the March 7 memo that is linked on the agenda we would return to the committee for an informational session or informational briefing on the one time funding recommendations that we will submit to the board.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Right. For clarity, whenever we're talking about funding allocations, the normal process that we have already established that we have done the community engagement process, come up with a set of recommendations, provided the CEO, make sure and CEO's office make sure that these things kind of fit within the breakdown of alternatives, community investments also makes sense for the budgetary areas of focus as well before those recommendations go before the CEO's office. The difference here is that the CEO office by way of one time funds which he's about to go through the difference between board letter and Measure J but the board motion states that CEO has the ability to make the recommendations directly to the board of supervisors by way of one time funds.

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>> Looking at the letter, it says that the recommendation is to reallocate the 8.789 million. Here it says if the board approves it then you'll come to us and have an informational session before the formal CFCI spending plan or letter goes to the board and so this today is not that information session, right

>> CHAIR STEELE: No.

>> I want to note it says if approved by the forward they will come talk to us.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Which is counter to the spirit of Measure J all together. But again this conversation is to talk through the differentiation between the board motion and Measure J and where that comes from because it's not CEO arbitrarily making this decision it is written here so it's a discussion to be had about how we want to move forward with this process.

>> Great. And turning to page 2 of your handout it starts with bullet point B, C and D. Chair Steele I think you phrased it better than I could. B, C and D are all components of the CFCI board policy. Item C talks about the advisory committee process with regard to the annual funding that we -- that CEO and the board set aside as part of every recommended budget process as chair Steele noted the advisory committee originates all of those spending recommendations. Submits those to the CEO, CEO reviews those recommendations, and in general, the CEO has accepted I think I would say 99.5% of the committee's recommendations in the past. I think there have been occasions where we had to change an administrator or split the funding between two departments or reduce funding to a small amount to be sure everything fit within the allocated funding but in general the CEO has been very supportive of the committee's process and we have always wanted to honor the recommendations that you have put into writing and made to us in the context of the first four spending plans that you submitted. Item D highlighted in blue on page 2, as chair Steele noted talks about the one time funding allocations process and the sentence that we highlighted in blue directs the CEO to make budget recommendations to the board to allocate the one time funding as part of fiscal year-end close every year. And that is usually late in the year between July and August. I have a couple more comments and I'm open to questions. In the first three years of CFCI closing, as CFCI was being phased in as projects were rumping up, as the advisory committee was better developing it's concept recommendations and community process, our office didn't make the

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recommendations to set aside the funding in in a one time account approximate make these one time funding recommendations to the board.

I think that we all agree that we can't afford to do that anymore. I think you of all articulated there are a lot of needs in the community that need to be addressed and we agree with that. We know from your leadership that the committee would prefer to consult with the community on how to allocate this one time funding. CEO recognizes the urgency of the issue and we intend to follow the board's instruction to make a recommendation on one time funding. It's worth repeating just for record sake, that CEO does not intend to redistribute funding from CFCI priorities to other uses that run counter to CFCI's goals. Or the charter mandate. For example, if we have cleanup costs related to the fires for earth moving or debris cleanup those are not eligible uses under CFCI or Measure J and we would not prioritize CFCI funding for some use such as that. It may be the case that CEO's recommendations when we share them with you are not exactly the same as the committee would make after the benefit of multiple community meetings.

We hope that you can agree putting the money to work in the community is key now, more than ever, particularly with uncertainties at the federal level and the state level and recent changes in the criminal justice system.

We know that more than 400 CBO's benefit from ongoing CFCI funding today, maybe more than 500 if you include the CBO's that county departments pass most of their funding to. In terms of next steps, as Chair Steele noted earlier, we are working on an allocation plan now and we'll return to the committee as soon as its ready. Likely very soon we hope and intend to work with the committee, committee leadership and JCOD to develop a plan for a collaborative and community driven process in future years on future occasions. We know that the one time funding is not a one time occurrence. We want to work with you in a process that works for the committee and that works for the County. We are committed to avoiding another build-up of CFCI one time funding in the future. And we want to engage with you on what we think a good process is moving forward. We know as well from prior meetings that you've had some concerns on how much spending and project launch information you get and how often you get it. And CEO is happy to work with you and JCOD to figure out a better way to get you the information that you need. Either from regular reports, routine reporting, dashboards or some sort of quarterly check in. With that, thank

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you for your time. I'm looking forward to working with you on these issues and I'm available for any questions that you have.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Member Lewis.

>> Member Lewis: I want to clarify I'm looking at the memo, under the CFCI section and so is it 235.8 million that's unspent is that what's projected to be unspent as of June 30th, is that what that number represents?

>> The 325 figure was the figure at the start of this fiscal year really in the fall in the supplemental budget. At the end of this fiscal year I think the number is 284 million.

>> Member Lewis: The small percentage how did you arrive at that number and I know you're still doing your analysis so I'm sure you can't tell us which departments that will come from but just curious how did you arrive at that 8.789 number?

>> CEO was directed by the board to find at least 10 million dollars to support a wildfire eviction relief program. CEO looked through available funding sources and identified about a million one. The balance 8.7 or 8.8 is the number that we included in the memo as recommended for CFCI funding.

>> CHAIR STEELE: How did you come up with that number? I appreciate you identifying why it happened but where did the number come from? How did you calculate it?

>> That was the difference between the 10 million that the board directed and the 1.1 million in other funding. I believe it was American Rescue Plan act but don't quote me on that, that we were able to identify. She said the rest needed from CFCI but from where he's not -- he's not answering that question, no.

>> MEMBER LEWIS: My only other comment would be sequentially this says you'll come back if the board approves it but we want to uplift in the spirit because I don't think we really have a choice of what CFCI is for, right. We know there's been some disparities in the folks in Altadena and there's specific things that can happen to address that that you can't necessarily access some resources others are is going to be top of mind. Here you made some comment around the most appropriate uses and I think there are some things that align. We don't have a choice there are specific things that could be done for households that are impacted that are in line with the CFCI vision or mission. And so is that part of the plan to look at that or I know it doesn't really matter you're taking, we have 200 million dollars of unspent funds so even though DHS laid out a really nice plan last month about a

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plan to do -- we can't the 9 million so be it I hope it can at least be in line with what CFCI is about and there's lots of opportunity in Altadena to line it up with that.

>> CHAIR STEELE: How many other recommendations do you all have that you're working on other than this one that we're talking about and that came by way of the report from March 7.

>> I'll be happy to share when we have a fuller package ready to brief the committee on.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Okay. Yes member Stevens.

>> Member Stevens: When I came to this table, I was really under the impression that this was an opportunity to truly address and meet community needs. It's very interesting, you know, this particular climate in time that we're in and I get it. But I don't really feel good about how this is rolling out and the reason I'm saying that is because communication is so important, you know, too oftentimes folks use language and terms like partnership all of this stuff that sounds really, really good until something happens and then and the way it shows up is disturbing to me I'm going to have to be transparent with you where I came from that was street stuff. Feeling played. And I just think that it's really important that because I don't have the power to decide what happens and obviously this body doesn't either but I want to uplift the importance for whoever is listening of better communication, ensuring that we are clear about our roles and responsibilities around this table. Because I remember a moment where it felt really, really good to be able to be a part of this process. And so I am somewhat, I am very much concerned about what it feels like right now. And I'm sure I'm not alone I'm sure there are people listening online and those who are present here in this room and those who work for the County of Los Angeles in some form or fashion that is around this table that have to, I'm almost certain, identify with what I'm saying. So it's really important that we be thoughtful about that. The last thing I'll say Chair Steele is for us not to -- for me to discover today that we don't have, you know, an opportunity to really make a recommendation before recommendations are made because that's what I'm hearing it. If I'm wrong please correct me.

>> Someone is speaking Spanish

>> MEMBER STEVENS: Is going to make the recommendation and the devastation that's happening even in Altadena, not even sure that you are aware that there are many of us who have been front and center too. I mean, I have loved ones family members who lost their homes. And communities which I'm familiar with. I think it's really important that we

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lean into this conversation and ask some hard questions and really uplift for some change because this just doesn't seem like a fair and equitable process for how we got here to this table to begin with.

>> I have a question for clarity just to catch up. Have we identified the, I don't know the grantees or whoever out of everybody who has the most unspent dollars, has that been figured out? Okay.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Yeah.

>> Member Crunk: Is it possible they have a large amount and I'm saying possible right now because I know you said it's not figured out, shall is it possible they could just say oh, we can just take the whole 8.7 from right here where the most hasn't been spent or is that not an option?

>> I don't know if I can speak to that yet. But our -- I think the CEO's goal in making any funding or one time recommendations is to be sure that the ongoing funding is not disrupted and the programs that have projected a need in the current year for funding will not be short on that need. For example, if a program at DCBA reported it would spend its ongoing allocation and half of its one time allocation, I think the CEO's goal would be to ensure that services are not impacted by any reduction that we make in the future.

>> CHAIR STEELE: You mentioned that in previous years CEO's offices decided not to make the recommendations but in this case you are deciding to do so. So even though you hear from us that we're prepared to move forward with a game plan that does add as much community voice as possible, you have the choice not to do it so like what is the -- what is the fervor, where is the fervor coming on this go around you're deciding we're just going to, because we're supposed to do it by way of motion. You don't got to do it because you've chosen not to do it in the past, so what is the framework why it's important to do it now when it hasn't been in the past?

>> Well, I think in the past as CFCI was ramping up, as JCOD was launching and building its administrative infrastructure, as the committee was better developing its annual processes and its outreach protocol and its protocol for developing project recommendations, it may have not made as much sense to reprogram the one time funding recommendations in earlier years. I think the goal was to be sure that programs and CFCI administering departments had enough runway to launch their programs without having to think about the issues of one time funding reallocation and reinvestment.



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[CAPTIONER CHANGE 5:00 P.M.]

>> . . . programs and CFCI administering departments had enough runway to launch their programs without having to think about the issues of one time funding reallocation and reinvestment.

>> CHAIR STEELE: I get it. So why now? I mean, like now the processes we do have in place. Now we're actually ready to fully engage in it, even fully understanding the timeline that we have in front of us, we're prepared to do so. Have even outlined the game plan to get it done. I feel like it makes less sense now. So, like, like, what is the, what is the push behind needing to do it now when you didn't have to, when you felt like you didn't need to do it before? Who is pressing the button?

I'm asking so that we can make sure that the Community Members know who to talk to.

>> I wouldn't say anyone is pressing the button: I would say we have extraordinary needs. I'm not saying we as the County of Los Angeles.

>> CHAIR STEELE: We always have. That was the whole point of Measure J.

>> Correct. And in today's environment there are needs in our communities, right. Needs at our CBOs that CEO is aiming to address with our one time funding recommendations.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Hmm. Please.

>> VERONICA LEWIS: I think we can express our concern for this but for me this just flags the importance of slit solidifying and supporting JCOD to get the evaluation done and solidifying so that by the end of this summer possibly that we have a process in place where we can make decisions around under spend in a methodical way and a frequency that makes sense, right? Maybe the half year mark in December. But for me we just need to put something formal in place. It's unfortunate, but it's very important reminder that we need to get those things in place.

I know some of it you know there have been all kinds of situations that have delayed our ability to do formal data evaluation and this just means we need to put something in place by the end of the summer so we can have a fair and thoughtful transparent way and looking at under spend and recommending to the CEO's office how to allocate it and what to do with it moving forward. That's all it flags for me.

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>> CHAIR STEELE: I think to that end, as I was saying early on, I think we still continue to go through the process we outline. We will still be able to pro-ride our recommendations that the CEO is talking about. I don't have a expense you have a way to tap into community to find out what the need actually is.

To your point not only from the evaluation standpoint of the totality of this and the issues going on in our community with the under spend. But also with this particular Year one cycle in the Budget cycle that we're in currently, just making sure that we have the ability to make that case. I'm with you 100%.

>> MEGAN CASTILLO: So since the Committee will not be a part of that decision making for the one year recommendations. How will the CEO assess the funds will be spent. Spend down in a year and the funds don't remain idle, as you stated?

>> Well, I think COE's goal would be to be sure we identify programs that are shovel ready, so to speak. Programs that either have already launched or programs that are, that have a developed program operating model that have internal administrative staff and program management staff who can devote the time necessary to launch the programs in a timely manner. And I think it will take a lot of coordination with departments and with JCOD to be sure that the departments can move forward in an expeditious manner to launch the projects and get the funding out to the communities.

>> MEGAN CASTILLO: I just want to express great concern around that process. It's quite literally why we're in the position we're in with the amount of unspent fund that's we do have. I want to uplift the incredible work with the model we have developed with the third party administrator and getting the resources down to the ground of the CBOs and it's one of the measure's components and I highly encourage the CEO and Supervisor to consider that model rather than, again, going through the County department and going through whatever process you have that has severely delayed and backed up the had a majority of the money that we have allocated toward this effort.

>> I also want to uplift what everybody is saying. I'm sitting here and really trying to soak everything in that you're talking about and I really did have a lot of concern as well. We've been working at this for years now and to hear we have 286 million dollars under spent. And to hear that your department is going to be the one to allocate it is troubling to me when we've been working on this for years.

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It makes me think, like, there's a reason why Community Members go to CBOs. Right? I'm a person that we want to a CBO. Because it felt safer with my community. That was where I got help. I couldn't get that through the department or the County because there was just so much bag logs and so many people and I would have to wait months and months and months to get, you know, proper help. I'm really asking you all to reconsider the process that we have worked on and go through our TPA to get good the funding out to the community where it's really needed. Thank you.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Right on.

In the essence of the rest of the agenda -- say it again? Please, go.

>> REBA STEVENS: Maybe it's going to be covered but what exactly, you know, who, where is this 280 some million dollars? Where does it belong to? And I don't think it's fair if we really don't understand and can't say this is what's being, you know -- I want to use the word "taken." Because I'm confused and it's important for me to lean into discomfort and say I'm confused. What projects are being -- specific projects -- is this adding up to this 200 and some odd million dollars?

>> CHAIR STEELE: I want to clarify. 155488 is the carry over, anticipated carry over from the under spend, right? And we do have that on the agenda to go through today. We do have that. But, again, would they even know that if we didn't ask for they. It's like come on man, this is crazy.

I want to actually bring the community into this portion of the conversation before we move onto the presentations and also going over this budget? Yes, please.

>> VERONICA LEWIS: I'm not sure if the Budget office can answer this but to be clear, is the 9 million coming from County budgets alone?

>> I don't know that we can speak to that yet.

>> VERONICA LEWIS: That's our ask formally. I can't speak for everybody else. That's my ask.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Don't touch TPA money.

>> Your request is noted.

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>> CHAIR STEELE: Public Comment?

>> CFCI: Members of the public are now invited to give Public Comment on number eight. As a reminder the Public Comment period is one minute per person. Telephone users dial star nine to use the raise hand feature. Dial star six to unmute yourself. Computer and smartphone users locate raise hand feature to be placed in the cue. We will call on you in the order your hand was raised. Please remember to state your full name for the record. We will begin Public Comment. Do we have any Public Comments in the room? Seeing none --

>> CHAIR STEELE: We have one.

>> CFCI: Oh. Oh. Thank you. Thank you. Please state your full name for the record?

>> DANIELLE LAFAYETTE: Hi I'm Danielle Lafayette. The founder and Director of united nation and we are Year one grantee and just hearing this, I'm like wow, that's a lot of money. For Year one I feel like we were -- I guess the only word I can use -- guinea pigs of the process, right? We were going through a lot of the process, a lot of the changes, a lot of the development of the funding and how the money was spent. Oral indicated in the processes that we have to go through with data collection and just a lot of the things in the changes and they were kind of put on us in Year one to really make the program, you know, better than what it is now.

So I would like ask or recommend that some of that money get allocated to Year one grantees to help us because during all of that turbulence, it did rock us, some of us, some of our organizations a lot.

So I would recommend that some of that money go to Year one grantees just so that we can, you know, I don't know, get ourselves back together and also just really push forward with the work that we are doing because of all the turbulence that can he did have to go through.

>> CHAIR STEELE: For sure, sure. Thank you.

>> DANIELLE LAFAYETTE: Thank you.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Thank you.

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>> CFCI: Thank you. Any other Public Comments in the room? Seeing no other hands in the room we would like to go online.

>> CFCI ZOOM: Thank you. There are two on online comments. First online commenter I see is Leah Perez. If you can unmute yourself and state your first and last name for the record. You have 60 seconds.

>> LEAH PEREZ: I am Leah Perez. On behalf of La Defensa. I've been a part of the coalition space since 2021 and I know a number of us part of this pre-Measure J and it feels like a joke, failure on behalf of the CEO and the County that four, five years later they can't answer where the money is and can't simplify their process and disrespectful to the CFCI committee that works once or twice a month to have nothing to show for it. I hope the questions that we're raising they are taking note of because they don't have answers either to basic asks.

It's very clear that they have no reason or no clear motive for funding this work now. So I share in the committee's concerns as to who is pressing the button, so to speak, and why no you? Considering they are talking about their low budget and the fires. Thank you.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Thank you.

>> CFCI ZOOM: The next guest is Byron. If you could state your first and last name for the record, please.

>> BYRON: Trans Latina coalition. Number G as the Board has a new budget accountability transparency process and for the CEO to have disregard. It's not an -- it's a law passed by the voters and we know the CEO is used to undermine this process and we saw it in the roll out and we continue to see it in the way it's staffed. Even in the last meeting we saw per the law CFCI funds are supposed to roll over. One.

Two, the CEO should have been keeping the balance with the department and we don't understand why the departments all of a sudden cannot account for why this money has not been spent and why the CEO allow them in year two and three and as we continue to go and get the money and hand into the pot. Your process is what led us to this moment and that doesn't make any sense for what's to trust the CEO will be able to solve this problem. Meet with the CEO. Thank you.

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>> CHAIR STEELE: Thank you Byron.

>> CFCI: Thank you. Seeing no more hands raised this concludes the Public Comment period. If you would like to submit a written Public Comment send an email to JCOD at LA County.gov at 5:00 p.m. the day before the meeting.

>> CHAIR STEELE: We will have Public Comment at the end for those who want to finish your thoughts. We got you.

For those impacted by the fires, by no means are we saying there should not be resources allocated for that. I think the process we will go through will provide the space and opportunity for the real understanding of how to allocate those funds will be brought to the forefront. That's the whole point of having community engagement. You can actually see exactly what to do so the dollars can go exactly where they are supposed to go. As far as pushing the buttons let me call the spade. The CEO is -- Davenport. Fesia Davenport is the CEO of the County and most people don't know that and it's important to be said. Her team is here to speak on her behalf but she is the CEO of the County and helping to have these decisions be made to take your voice out of the process of the.

If you don't want that to be the case, you can definitely reach out. That's coming from Derrick at the social justices learning institute. That has nothing to do with my position here.

We're going to have JCOD come forth. In the process of identifying everyone we said we want to have the different departments identified by way of the document we got at the last meeting that had anticipated carry over to come before us and talk through what happened and to understand fundamentally what the needs are so that we can get a fundamental understanding of what the carry overact needs actually are and how much money we're going to be reclaiming for recommendations for reallocation. JCOD so graciously identified themselves to step up and lead as the first department to show up in this regard.

I know, I know. I'm changing. I want to make sure the presentation happens and then we'll talk about the spending plan too. Got you. We covered a lot of it and I'm looking at this and it's not like there's a lot of changes from the spending plan piece but I want to make sure the present take happens. So we got JCOD here and I think JSED is next and we

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have a list as well of the different organizations that will be presenting in front of this body over the next several weeks.

>> We will communicate with leadership about the order for the other departments as with will.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Thank you, Adam.

>> ADAM: I'm here to kick it off and I'll pass it to my colleague Joseph Weise. We have three areas to present to you today.

Really what we tried to do. It should be in your handout. Doors we have here and we will hand that out now.

Really what we try to do is stick to the presentation criteria as closely as we could. So we'll keep it fairly high level and most of these programs you're aware of and I'm sure you're going to have questions and we wanted to keep it as high level as possible. This is the funding we received in Year one. I do want to kick it off and say the service that's JCOD provides, all direct services are exclusively done by community-based organizations. Literally everything that we do is a contract with a community-based organization who is out there on the front line providing services.

If you take the grantees that we work really closely with the TPA and those funded through Incubation Academy, over 500 organizations that JCOD is working with really closely and I want to set the tone there that we are working really closely with the community already. And that's really how we've sought to deploy these funds first and foremost. I'm going to pass it over to Joseph Weise Wiley and he's going to talk us through breaking barriers first.

>> JOSEPH WEISE: Thanks, Adam. Good afternoon. My name is Joseph Weise and I am the division Director of Workforce and Housing at the Justice, Care, and Opportunities Department and I am here today to talk about breaking barriers. Sorry. 6-foot four. Yeah.

>> CHAIR STEELE: I know.

>> JOSEPH WEISE: Tall.

>> How is that?

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>> CHAIR STEELE: That's good. Thank you.

>> JOSEPH WEISE: Awesome. I'm here today to talk about breaking barriers which is a time limited rental subject deprogram. Scattered site meaning the community-based organization we work with finds landlords and property managers willing and able to accept the rental subsidy. Just a little bit of background about this program. It started in 2016 as a partnership between the Hilton foundation and probation and since then it has changed hands and funding sources multiple times before landing with the Office of diversion and reentry and secured CFCI funding in April of 2022 which really allowed it to stabilize. It was kind of the first secured funding source that [name] was able to secure and plan for the future and to grow. The rental subsidies is married with employment case services provided by Chrysalis. Next slide.

So there's three main funding sources that provide the case management and the rental substances for breaking barriers. So CFCI one primarily is used for the rental substance diodes which includes move in costs, furniture, the rental application itself and a small portion of the housing navigator that can actually find places willing to take the subsidy, participant support items, furniture, stuff of that nature.

The Budget at the start of this Fiscal Year with CFCI was about 6 million the and there's a projection of about \$3.6 million to be carried over in the next Fiscal Year. I want to highlight that every physical equal year there has been an increase in spending.

The delays in spending was a combination of things. One, the Provider found they were competing with other vouchers and other fair market rates so to address that, we approved that they can also have a fair market rate. So that landlords and property managers would be willing to accept the stipend.

As I mentioned, there was an issue identifying landlords and business companies, but we approved funding for them to hire their own team of housing navigators that goes out in the community and pitches the program because it is difficult to pitch. But they are finding more and more landlords and property managers willing to accept the stipend. There's a general discrimination against the population that a lot of landlords and property managers still face. So we have introduced a housing advocacy component into the program teaching about fair housing and anti-discrimination laws to kind of persuade landlords and property managers from taking the subsidies.

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And the final delay in spending had to do with ramping up. Because they were operating at such a low level for so long, this funding did give them an opportunity to ramp up but it just took about six months to hire staff, to train them on the referral process, train them on everything that could really be fully operated but they are currently fully staffed and currently operational. And a good reason that they were having spending delays is that parents are actually paying more of their subsidy than they anticipated which means the program is working.

The point of the program is the participant takes over the rent more and more as the two years go on. As they reduce barriers and get better employment. What the organization is actually finding is that people are paying more share of their stipends.. But I do have a spend down plan. Next slide.

So real quick, just want to give high level overview of our program outcomes and achievements specifically using the CFCI one funds.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Real quick. Before we go to the breakdown of impact. Looking at this, it's pretty solid. We can go back one more slide. For, I see there's the increase in spending. I got that.

The carry over from the previous year is \$3.6 million. From the spend down of that, how much do you actually need of that \$3.6 million that cannot be covered by the ongoing funds from resorts that are already allocated for JCOD for this?

>> JOSEPH WEISE: I'm sorry. Can you repeat the question?

>> CHAIR STEELE: You have 3.6 in carry over. How much of it do you actually need?

>> JOSEPH WEISE: That is anticipated from spending costs for the year and so that is fully Anna anticipated carry over from other funding sources.

>> CHAIR STEELE: How much do you need and can you spend in the next 12 months?

>> JOSEPH WEISE: My plan is to increase our emergency housing and Interim Housing portfolio to be able to provide temporary shelter or interim nine month to one year housing while they wait for spots in the subsidy program to open up. We can open probably 80 Interim Housing Beds. We put out a request for information last week and anticipate information to come in by April 11 and contracts fully executed by July 1st. We're really

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waiting for the responses from the community-based organizations to identify potential contractors.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Got it. I feel you on the plan. I think that's a solid plan of the action. But I'm not getting the sense that there is Anna television make to use the whole \$3.6 million toward that end. To have the extra money there to be able to do it, I feel you on that. But with the contracts that and you have been I guess even the ramp up of those things over time, is there Anna advertise approximation of \$3.6 million and there to be a need to cover it?

>> JOSEPH WEISE: There's also an option that we have been looking at for site-based housing to do Permanent Supportive Housing. But with our emergency housing and Interim Housing, what we do is a guaranteed slot rate because all the referrals to from us. So it's a pain because we're asking you to hold the slots for the participants and we make the referral to you.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Okay. All right. We'll circle back. But go ahead.

>> JOSEPH WEISE: No problem.

Yeah so just high level outcomes. 95 individuals have been housed using these CFCI one funds and 34 currently enrolled and will be using the CFCI funds for the rental subsidies and awaiting to find a location and find a landlord or rental property that's willing to take the subsidy. There's been about 81 exits and 70% has been successful with 28 fully taken over the rent. That's the one I love to highlight. At the end of the day that's the purpose of the program is that they are able to transition in place and stay where they live. That's just a really huge success.

Next slide. I know you kind of were interested in knowing spending by Supervisor district. This is kind of a best guess scenario at this point based off of how many parents were living in the Supervisor district and SPA and the average length of stay and days and kind of how much on average people are getting subsidies and we can definitely look at brilliant corners and look at their rent roll and it's detailed and it would take time because there's a lot of data but this is the best guess estimation at this point. Next slide.

Looking at the demographics, I want to highlight the blank one, 106 is mostly Hispanic and Latino individuals. The data systems have difficulty talking to each other right now and

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we will work that out. And how they categorize race and ethnicity doesn't translate to our database and we're working closely with they are data team to make sure we have a one to one and just a breakup by gender and age. Next slide.

These are just two success stories that we recently had. Definitely read it at your own pace. But just going to show that the program is successful. It really allows individuals time to work on their employment goals so that they can take over the rent fully at the end of the period.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Hmm.

>> JOSEPH WEISE: Next slide. Another way we plan to kind of address the under spending is adding longer rental subsidy periods and incentive mental health periods for ten to twenty individuals an usually, we find individuals because of a traumatic event organize something else happens, their needs increase and they need to stay longer than two years. We can allow them to spend three to four years with the side effect of less people taking over the rent as an outcome but we're able to provide more sustainable care for people that need that extra support. Interim Housing or catch people before they are leaving court and provide temporary shelter and get them into Interim Housing while we wait to find a rental unit. Brilliant corners is who we work with and they contract with Chrysalis for employment. There is opportunity to find other housing for rental subsidies. Because of the environment now they are going for other funding sources. Just in case they are going for BSC C grant and if they get that there's more opportunity for CFCI funds to be used toward dollars supporting the community directly.

Next steps. We release the RFI and they are due April 11th. And we're going to work quickly on identifying the best fit to be able to contract with them. And that's it.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Received. Thank you very much. Question? Member Lewis?

>> VERONICA LEWIS: Thank you so much. I can't believe it's been almost nine years since breaking barriers started. Two questions.

One, I'm on slide three -- slide four. So the slot capacity is 250 Eachus year. And I want to understand, especially since the program has been going on for so long. Explain to me what's happening in terms of the gaps and remind me of the eligibility again? Who makes decisions? I have one more question after that.

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>> JOSEPH WEISE: Slot capacity is intensive case management slot capacity. How many case manager they have and can serve for a year. They budget for about 200 individuals to receive a stipend because there does tend to be drop off individuals. While waiting for the stipend move in with family members and finding a place on their own and not needing the program anymore. They have that built into the budget element. There's about 50 people that don't need the stipends. Currently enrolled are the individuals on ICMS and they are increasing that. Exits sometimes happen faster than the enrollments. We are looking to improve our referral process where they can come directly to us and we siphon them or and send them directory to breaking barriers.

The eligibility was because of funding back in the day. Only people on adult federal probation but because we can use CFCI funds, we can use the money for anyone who has justice involvement.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Mmm hmm.

>> VERONICA LEWIS: What's the timeline to open referrals or to a broad Ercitite?

>> JOSEPH WEISE: We're working on the form and then we're going to be able to send it out to the community and to probation directly so the kind of referrals come directly to us and we can get them into the program quicker.

>> VERONICA LEWIS: Okay. And the second question -- I'm a little concerned around the comments of the demographics. Given we're 18 months in to JCOD having a contract. I want to be clear, they are reporting demographics to you though your systems don't talk? Can you say more about that given we're 18 months in with JCOD?

>> JOSEPH WEISE: They use, if you want me to get into the weeds.

>> VERONICA LEWIS: No. Just do you receive the information?

>> JOSEPH WEISE: Yes, we receive data on a monthly basis. Moving the information over is taking time to do a one to one match.

>> VERONICA LEWIS: Merging the systems.

>> JOSEPH WEISE: Yes and we will have cleaner data for you.

>> VERONICA LEWIS: For the full look back. Okay. But they are using your system now?

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>> JOSEPH WEISE: Mmm hmm. Correct.

>> VERONICA LEWIS: Okay. Thank you.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Yeah. That's good.

>> REBA STEVENS: I want to know more. Maybe make me happy.

>> JOSEPH WEISE: That's my only goal.

>> REBA STEVENS: I like being happy and I like when I hear something that really stands out. The 28 people who took over their rent -- let me say that again.

The 28 people who took over their rent. That is very impressive and I don't even know the full number, although you have it here. But what I'm thinking is, how do we understand better what, who they are? You know? What did they have? What did they need? And what kind of support was wrapped around them? So that that number can be even higher. Because I think that is where -- and I'm really talking to our CEO partners over there right now -- but I believe that that's the direction in which we should be wanting to go is to shoot for the stars.

So I just want to -- I don't know. Will you all join me in applauding those 28 people who took over their rent because that's how we end this thing. You know? So thank you. I'm impressed.

>> JOSEPH WEISE: No, absolutely. And I appreciate that and huge shout out to brilliant corners and this is something they have perfected over nine years and always looking for improvement and looking to doing a study for that purpose. What was it? Did they have higher touch points and what was it that made them able to do that? So I appreciate your comment.

>> CHAIR STEELE: That's great. Thank you for that, Member Stevens. .

I appreciate that Member Stevens. Question to Judge Songhai. JCOD was set up when?

>> JUDGE SONGHAI ARMSTEAD: November 21 a little over two years.

>> CHAIR STEELE: When did you have the staff capacity that you have now. I'm just asking.

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>> JUDGE SONGHAI ARMSTEAD: So through the Budget cycle that you were going through we'll get, like, some people, we'll get some people, so we're still, we're still working on it.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Still working on it. Okay. Got it. I just, because this is a new department. This is the reason that why I'm asking the question. And I know, and looking at this. And I appreciate your candor and attempt to answer the question that I was asking about the resources for the carry over. Just generally speaking, that is one of the main questions we're trying to find the answer to so we can understand how those dollars will be utilized to make sure first of all they get spent down; but second of all, do we need to reallocate them? Like the public has stated, there are other ways to use lies those funds if they are not going to be spent effectively. So I appreciate that.

Okay.

>> REBA STEVENS: Chair Steele?

>> CHAIR STEELE: Yes.

>> REBA STEVENS: I just have to compliment JCOD in many ways. One is, when I'm listening to KBLA and I hear that advertisement, I mean, I don't know if y'all listen to KBLA. If you don't listen, you got to listen to KBLA because you can hear them actually share broadly the great work in what is the resources that are available by way of JCOD. That's one.

And the other is that I have met many of my Peers and others that I am very much familiar with and some new folk that have been hired on at JCOD. And so I've been watching without realizing it, the growth of it. And but how intentional it seems that JCOD has been in the hiring process. So I just think that it's really important that when we think about re-- the unspent funding, is to also think about the newness, you know, of this department.

And have more conversation about which direction we should go. And I say that because, you know, there are departments that we're being looking at -- and it makes no sense as to why they are unspent dollars with the history of who they are and how long they have been around. But where JCOD is -- so I have to, you know, I feel like, I don't want to be misunderstood. Like they are an underdog but I find of feel like the underdog, you know, maybe that's a bad terminology but, um, what I'm really saying is that, you know, let's, you know, let's, let's, let's be thoughtful. Let's be -- I'm not saying that we have to be so patient

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but let's be very thoughtful about what we're asking of because they are producing results. I ain't giving you nothing today, I got applause around the table on 28 people. You know, so I'm just saying.

>> JOSEPH WEISE: I'll take it.

>> REBA STEVENS: That's a big deal to me.

>> JOSEPH WEISE: I appreciate that and that means a lot coming from the Committee.

>> CHAIR STEELE: We have a couple others to capture. Member Eakins?

>> AULERIA EAKINS: Just a real quick question if I'm reading this correctly. Demographics. There is a large number of ethnicity was left blank. Is this because the information was self-...reported or because it was left blank because they rather not say? That's 106 out of 161.

>> JOSEPH WEISE: Those are the individuals that are Hispanic. It's because of how, again, not trying to get too much into the weeds, but how their system, race is one category and ethnicity is another and race will be blank and then Hispanic is the ethnicity they choose and I'm trying to work with them to do a better one to one and report one category to it. But most of the blanks are Hispanic Latinos of the ethnicity.

>> AULERIA EAKINS: Thank you.

>> JOSEPH WEISE: Yeah.

>> WESLEY CRUNK: I have a question. Most of the ethnicity of Hispanic, is the race blank or saying different things? I'd like to know the different things?

>> JOSEPH WEISE: Yeah we're trying to also work on them. Some of it is -- and I forget the categorization. White, non-Hispanic, and black Hispanic. That's what we're trying to get better detail on so we can get a better breakdown of it.

>> WESLEY CRUNK: [off mic]

>> JOSEPH WEISE: .. case management system and the systems have not merged from the old data to the new data and we have hired contracts to feed it so that it can merge. It's a little bit more complicated.

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>> WESLEY CRUNK: Is your new system doing that?

>> JOSEPH WEISE: It didn't differentiate between Black versus white.

>> WESLEY CRUNK: Hmm.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Yes, please.

>> I want to understand more and maybe I got the timelines wrong. You mentioned the RFI has gone out and responses due April; is that correct? How soon after the award contracts are awarded?

>> JOSEPH WEISE: Review a week after that and then contract negotiations and I hope to have them launched July 1st.

>> When did the RFI period open?

>> JOSEPH WEISE: Last week. No, I'm sorry. Monday.

>> March to July. Just wanting to hear a little bit more about, it seems like that's an expedited contracting process for the County. I think in our last meeting we started to hear that some of the --

>> CHAIR STEELE: Finish your thought and we'll come back around.

>> I'm wanting to understand if there's something that JCOD is unique to this situation. There are others with other barriers in the contracting process and that's why we're left over and I'm trying to understand the mechanics of this situation to understand if it's unique.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Learning process. For like department per department. Go ahead. I'm listening.

>> JUDGE SONGHAI ARMSTEAD: So we're trying to figure out how to do things different. Another person who didn't grow up in the County, it's very complicated to get anything done here. But one of the tools that we learned about was master services agreements but it's a huge process to get it approved. Literally since Day 1 we had one contract worker and now we have I think three people working, the contracts team, have been working to try to get us a master services agreement. It literally was just approved by the Board two weeks ago. And now through the master services agreement they are able to do a solicitation for a work



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order which allows us to do this quick process. But it took us two years to get the master services agreement so that we now can start doing contracts faster, if that makes sense.

It's a huge start up but once we get to that point, it makes it easier for us to actually start getting things done.

>> CHAIR STEELE: That's ECC in action. Equity in County contracts, trying to actually work it through.

>> JUDGE SONGHAI ARMSTEAD: But it's very hard.

>> CHAIR STEELE: I heard. The service agreement, it is,.

>> JUDGE SONGHAI ARMSTEAD: ...

>> CHAIR STEELE: Just as an organization to complete the service agreement is extremely difficult because you have to have all of the documentation. All of the pieces that the County is looking for to make the case for you to be able to be on the bench. I see what you're saying. I got you.

>> JUDGE SONGHAI ARMSTEAD: All of the bill of indictment but when we did it we did it for [name] and DYD. Those are the two departments. We did both at the same time and it took us like I said almost two years to get to that point.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Asking specifically about the RFI.

>> JUDGE SONGHAI ARMSTEAD: Because of the master services agreement is why we're able to do the fast track now. I was trying to explain it took us two years to get there but because of that we're now able to do a solicitation for the work order and that's why we're able to do the fast track. Does that make sense? It's two years to get there but once you get there, everything is a lot faster.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Cool. Thank you very much.

>> ADAM: Thank you so much Joseph for the presentation. That was great. I just want to uplift something so our organization has ...

>> MICHELLE FUENTES-MIRANDA: Several County contracts and one coming from JCOD and I had just wanted to uplift and appreciate the intentionality in how you contract with

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community and community organizations and trying not to reinvent, or trying to reinvent. Really. And I just appreciate and I know we're talking about -- or we called for this meeting to talk about unspent funds and just from a community-based organization, a contractor with JCOD, I'm going to speak to the efficiency, the timeliness of how they operate with contractors from training to -- if we submit an invoice, a correct invoice, we have our payment in two weeks. That's efficiency, right?

So holding onto funds is not something that the department does. And so which tells me that there's probably, like Joseph was uplifting, there's other factors as to why some of these funds didn't get out. I just wanted to share the back end for the department and thank you. Huge fan, obviously.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Received. Thank you.

>> ADAM: Thank you.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Next.

>> ADAM: Thank you, Joseph. Appreciate it. We're going to get into Incubation Academy. Katia is here as well and running date to day for Incubation Academy and I'm going to talk us through a few slides. Thank you for pulling this information together and obviously our team is here available for questions as they come up, should I not be able to cover. Ready?

>> CHAIR STEELE: Yeah, please.

>> ADAM: Okay. So again, just trying to stick to the criteria that you all had asked for. Launched in 2021. Obviously, the goal is to increase Community Capacity by providing training, technical assistance to grassroots community-based organization, especially those that serve and on led by underrepresented justice involved individuals and prepare them to compete for County contracts. So we're countywide. Annually receive \$1.4 million. It's in the program strategy economic opportunity and sustainability. Again, our major outcome here, target outcome, is to create additional capacity within the community to deliver prevention and Intervention services to justice involved folks. Next slide.

Thanks. So, again, \$1.4 million and ongoing. Our total funding to date is 4.2 and this is broken out into cohort training so we're on cohort eight. We'll get into that in a moment. At current click we're running three cohorts a year. Between 25 and 30 participants in each

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cohort. It includes executive coaching and something part of judge Armstead's division. For folks wanting to launch a nonprofit but not there yet. Wanting to have a 503C they can come to the training. Our first was here October 30th and the next one coming up April 7th and coming up in Supervisor District one.

If you all have colleagues, friends who are interested in starting their own nonprofit, that's a really good opportunity for them to come. That's how the funds are broken down. In terms of the spend down plan.

Our anticipated carry over is 1.4. It's really close to our annual funding allocation. The reason that that amount exists is because that is for capacity building grants for our graduates, cohorts six, seven, and eight.

The way that our contract was set up with our administrator of those grants is that it's due to lapse June 30th. We will be extending that contract and making an amendment to put that 1.4 million in that contract and that will go out in the form of additional capacity building grants for those cohorts six through eight.

So everybody who graduates have an opportunity to apply and it's a targeted specific need. So if they target, for example, communications or building out a Board or something, they can use that capacity building grant to go then hire a consultant or something like that and then kind of have a targeted and specific need addressed through those grants.

So we expect to have those things wrapped up in the contract and those additional grants to be dispersed within the next two to three months. That's our spend down plan. You asked for six to nine months and we anticipate doing it, in fact, quite a bit sooner than that. There's a plan and path it get the dollars spent down.

We will be using the ongoing funding to continue to focus on additional cohorts as well as additional capacity building grants. As mentioned, we're running three cohorts a year. Cohort eight is graduating in the next couple of weeks and we'll start the ninth cohort in May.

Next slide.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Just for clarification. Just the 1.47 you're being looking to support the previous academy graduates and then also support the pending classes as well.

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>> ADAM: Correct.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Okay. You need that whole 4.7?

>> ADAM: Yes. It's 1.47 to be clear. Yes we absolutely do need it. And I will share, the way the grants roll out. This speaks to the newness of our department quite frankly. Most of what we've been able to pull off is through braided funding. Our major ask through the CEO is sustainable ongoing funding. We appreciate you lauding our efforts. We have done a lot with a small amount of folks but we do not have a lot of ongoing funding with a lot of our programs.

As you hear from us over the next couple of weeks as we get through programs, a lot of it is one time. Obviously in our CFCI programs. As we sustain and grow, some of the things are piloted in a specific area of the County, for example. Miles is going to share about Doors. We have two Doors site and we are going to do a third. That requires ongoing investment that JCOD was called outdo and carry out the vision of the Board.

I know it's a long answer to your question but it gets to the point of the 1.47 will do grants for a while but we need more money for the Incubation Academy. We're piloting this with the cohort and we want to expand that and make it available to all cohorts. This touch point while vital to folks, is just a start.

As we speak to more of the data later, you'll see that a lot of folks have received grants. Again, those grants are just a start. Are they in fact stood up to go get a County contract? Some are, some aren't. Some are on their way and others require hand holding and we want to make sure they are successful and they can apply for contracts with DCBA and DCSS and some of our other partners.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Pause for a second. It's a time check. We started 12 minutes late today. Are you able to stick around for an additional 12 or do we need to have a hard stop at 6:00? I got you. Generally speaking? We're good? Okay. Cool. All right. Keep your mind on time, please? Thank you.

>> ADAM: Yes. Any other questions? We'll keep moving. We've had 194 organizations through and that includes the current cohort moving through. Snapshot data. 95% have BIPOC LGBTQIA+ plus. We're between 25 and 30orgs per cohort and we try to disperse evenly across supervisory districts and that makes other stakeholders happy. We try to get

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five for east district and it's not always he is. We work tart and you'll see District five in the later slide where the need has spilled out. 87% are smaller organizations with ten or fewer full-time employees. We have done cohorts where everybody had less than five. It really is something where we're taking folks at a grassroots level and lifting them up. Next slide, please.

Again, this is just the total organizations per cohort and you'll see the numbers moved around quite a bit. Unfortunately, sometimes we lose folks. I think in our recent cohort we started with 30 and we're down to 28. We can go to the next slide.

And this is just, again, high level. This will be borne out in our data slide I think you'll see it a little bit differently. But if you look at, again, the 2.5 capacity building grants but the \$55 million in CFCI Care Grants. That's a huge number. 70 million in overall contracts. We've established something where folks are coming in and being stood up to then go and receive additional grant funds and additional contracts.

Next, please. This is just highlighted on the current cohort. And like I said, they will be graduating in a couple of weeks here. Again, based on the Jenny index 80 periods of time on in highest need areas and 100% BIPOC/justice involved LGBTQIA led.

This is what I alluded to earlier. This is something that we have really targeted and sought to work on a little bit better. We want to ensure that those funds are a little bit more evenly dispersed of the.

Truthfully, the most applicants we get for Incubation Academy comes from S D-2. We get a lot of applicants from that area and we work with the Board offices and other stakeholders in other areas to ensure when we do good through our application process that we're reaching orgs that don't know about the process yet. We do additional communication effort for who may be interested to come through the Incubation Academy. A lot of this is word of mouth as well. We have folks that are interested and reach out. We do a rolling out application process too.

Right now people can apply and we're flagging that information in our system so that when it comes time allow the official application process in the next couple of weeks for the May cohort, we'll have those on hand.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Member Lewis.

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>> VERONICA LEWIS: It's important for equitable distribution but I would ask that you do the overlay. It may not be as lopsided as you think. Obviously we can see it too but have you overlaid the different indices and other criteria?

The other thing really quickly. The million or dollar amount for reciprocity building, is that what we allocated in year three, the flex fund? No?

>> ADAM: Sorry, Member Lewis. There are funds working through the Board letter process with CEO office related to capacity building. Part of that 12.3 million?

>> VERONICA LEWIS: When you said it was limited to cohort eight, no, it's supposed to be open to all. I just want to make sure.

>> ADAM: Yes and that hasn't been dispersed yet. We are open to that.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Member Soto?

>> ROSA SOTO: I agree and also continue to outreach asking Incubation Academy leads to continue to outreach to the different supervisorial districts in working with the Commissioner so that we can maybe open doors with communication to nonprofit partners that might qualify.

>> ADAM: Certainly. Thank you.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Member Castillo?

>> MEGAN CASTILLO: Seconded what Member Lewis said. I definitely think this chart tracks with what we're seeing on the ground in terms of densely, SC two populated ask certainly an area amongst the highest need dollars.

I did want to go back to the slide where you talked about the anticipated carrier being 1.47 million. I'm curious of the 1.47 million how much does the contractor take and how many redistributed to the CBOs and how many more grants railroad anticipating the 1.47ish will allow for?

>> ADAM: You're asking about our administrative fee of the administrator of the grants?

>> MEGAN CASTILLO: Yes.

>> ADAM: Our contract is public record? Yeah? 7%.

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>> MEGAN CASTILLO: Okay so they would take about 7% of the 1.47 leaving the rest there.

>> ADAM: Which is negotiable, right? And frankly, I think we got a good deal.

>> MEGAN CASTILLO: Got it. Curious. Sorry if you mentioned this. But how much does it cost to run a program for two cohorts a year? What's the annual cost of the Incubation Academy?

>> KATIA: Good evening, everyone. That's actually a tricky question as we have revamped. As Adam has mentioned, we have added three cohorts per year and it varies and in each contract we have added the training and executive coaching component and added the capacity building grants and I would still about 1.5 or even more. I think we last estimated about 2 million per cohort. Again, I can revise the numbers and we can verify where we're at now. We've had to constantly revamp contracts as we have built it. One clarifying point that I want to mention that Adam I think missed. The Incubation Academy began in 2021 at ATI and brought did in 2023 to JCOD when JCOD was launched and we're slightly behind because we're trying to add additional cohorts that were not previously added to the contract and I just want it had clarify that.

>> CHAIR STEELE: That's a great we. Thank you for the response.

>> ADAM: Thank you, Katia. And I didn't answer your full question, Member Castillo. The 1.4, all of that will go to grants. What Katia mentioned, the rest of the costs, we've pulled together -- and this is a great example of how we have braided opportunity. MOU with probation and we have used their fund to see kick out more for cohorts because the cost per cohort ask going up as we add more folks. The left over funds in CFCI, all of that will go to grants.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Thank you. Member Eakins?

>> AULERIA EAKINS: I'm not really sure where your money -- where does your money come from to run this program? Measure J or a different source or different departments? Where does this come from? It seems to me this is something we should get behind and fund because it's in alignment with the work we're doing.

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>> ADAM: 1.4 annually. 1.4 and ongoing comes from Measure J and we have an additional 1.4 that's carry over and those are one time dollars we are going to push out into more grants.

The remaining costs associated with the program, those come from all over. Wherever we can get it, frankly. And then as Member Lewis highlighted, in the 12.3 you have all approve and had now going through process to be recommended to the Board and hopefully approved, there's additional capacity building funding in there that we will use to continue to sustain this program.

>> CHAIR STEELE: In this budget cycle. Because it's considered year four spending.

>> ADAM: Right. And, again, I mean accident we handle this in spurts sort of. We do sprints where they have fund and going we spend down and have funding and then we spend down.

What I addressed earlier is really kind of the structure all issue that we as a new department run into. We really have conditioned to request ongoing funding from other sources from NCC and from general fund.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Does that answer your question? Yes. Fantastic. Anything else? All right.

I would like -- just how you were able to detail the 1.47 for the first presentation. We need solid breakdown of what that can look like so that we can know for sure of what the actual needs are and what also we can actually reclaim if need be or if we can. Okay?

>> ADAM: Sure.

>> CHAIR STEELE: We don't have time for doors today, unfortunately.

>> ADAM: Okay.

>> CHAIR STEELE: I don't want to keep people too much longer. I do see in this presentation though if I flip to page six, looking at the spending fees because I don't know if y'all have noticed but that's really my main focus on where things are in today's conversation.



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>> ADAM: I think in 30 seconds I can let you know what you're looking at and then we can bring it back later if you all have questions.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Please.

>> ADAM: We spaced out the Budget in one time and ongoing which is what you all had requested. That's the primary difference. The other thing our team did is reached out to every department represented on the list.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Talking about the spending plan, go ahead.

>> ADAM: Sorry, Chair Steele.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Keep going.

>> ADAM: Spending plan. We have broken out the larger bucket into one time funds so you can see that and we have asked folks to update projections for spending and update estimates. So department heads that are here and your alternates, your fiscal folks have provided us updated numbers there. Whatever was available and making those as up to date as possible. Understanding too there's in the weeds and nuanced bureaucracy delays.

There's huge departments. JCOD can do T I think DCBA can do if. Some of the smaller departments we can work quickly but when you get into larger spaces there's more hands that it needs to pass through. The numbers are what we can get for today. We can provide, review and let us know what you need. We can revise the document and today it might not be helpful and you can see in future quarters what has changed.

>> VERONICA LEWIS: I would love to have information around what your process looks like and the tool that your department administrator has to complete and I think we should weigh in on that and weigh in on the frequency and there should be reoccurring whether it's quarterly or some other frequency reports with updated information. If it's going to be 60 days behind. I want to understand how it's happening at a committee level and if it's falling in line with transparency and also when you bring information that it's complete in the way that we have asked for it to be submitted to you all.

>> ADAM: Are you asking for a County budgeting 101?

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>> VERONICA LEWIS: No. Not at all. What tool released. Which departments submit to you to demonstrate the spending, how much is under spend, projects cost, et cetera. What does that lack like? Is it open ended? Is there a tool and if not, there should be. I want to understand JCOD's process to collect this information so we can weigh in on it so the next time we get a report from you hopefully it gets us everything we need with the understanding of what the time frames are going to be. Are you clear what I'm asking?

>> ADAM: Yes.

>> VERONICA LEWIS: Yes.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Mmm hmm. Here. Thank you very much for modeling and for the information in the context of JCOD and a couple of the programs. I know we have several more that we have to dive into.

Let's go to general Public Comment?

>> CFCI: Members of the public are now invited to give general Public Comment. As a friendly reminder the Public Comment period is one minute per person. Telephone users dial star nine to us other the raise hand feature. Dial star six to unmute yourself. Computer and smartphone users locate your raise hand feature to be placed in the cue. We will call you on in the order your hand was raised and please remember to state your full name for the record. We will now begin Public Comment. Do we have any comments in the room? Seeing no hands in the room, we would like to go online.

>> CFCI ZOOM: There's one hand raised in the chat. Guest Joel Garcia. You've been unmuted. You have 60 seconds to speak. Could you please state your first and last name for the record, this.

>> Hello. I'm the Director of [name] projects and we are I believe a Year-One Grantee or actually year two grantee for career pathways.

I just want to kind of say that, you know, for east LA in particular, this process has been challenging but we've been doing good work with the funding that we have got in. And there remains a lot of uncertainty as to how we continue. So I'm advocating for current grantees to just be renewed. Be renewed for another three years for the work that they are doing. It

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feels really bizarre this would be cut off, given there's so much more money available to continue doing the work that many good folks are doing. Thank you very much.

>> CFCI ZOOM: That concludes online Public Comment.

>> CHAIR STEELE: I know we clarified this momentarily but for clarity, ongoing funds can be expected by all contracted folks for next Fiscal Year unless this body recommends or the Board of Supervisors decides to do differently; is that correct?

>> Ongoing won't be touched.

>> Let me clarify, as far as I know at this moment, that's what we have been told.

>> CHAIR STEELE: Unless the Board of Supervisors changes from there. The recommendation from this body is to continue with ongoing funds. For anybody listening with current contracts with CFCI, what is it? The 76th that's with TPA two? Those contracts will continue for the next Fiscal Year.

But just keep in mind, it's not a three year contract anymore. It's year to year, right? So just keeping that part in mind. But yes. Mmm hmm. Go ahead. Did you want to say something? Yeah. Yeah. Definitely. And that's the whole -- okay. All right thank you very much he have for your time, attention, and energy today.

We continue to have work to do. So we will see you in a couple weeks. Yes.

[Meeting adjourns 6:13 p.m.]