



BOSS

April 29, 2015

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Donald Frazier

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ADDENDUM: Bid Protest - City of Berkeley FY2016-2017 RFP Homeless Programs

BOSS asserts that the taint of the conflict cannot be vitiated merely by removing the recommendations from committees from which the conflicts existed. The City Attorney's remedy to take recommendations from committees not affected by the commissioners' participation is an attempt to work around the fact that the City of Berkeley undertook inappropriate measures to prevent conflicts. It sends the signal to those involved in the process, and to the general public, that the City did not take the allegations of a highly flawed process seriously enough to warrant review. In the interests of all concerned, an alternate process could be:

1. Fund homeless providers at the 2014-2015 levels and rebid the HCRC and homeless service funding in FY2016-2017. Moving the funding allocation to FY2016/2017 will provide an opportunity to straighten out many of the issues presented by the conflicts of interest that arose this year and would maintain funding of homeless services while new measures are developed to protect the public trust; OR

Since the City Manager's recommendation are in step with the now tainted Homeless Commissions recommendation:

1. The City of Berkeley's Health, Housing, & Community Services Department, the Homeless Commission, and the City Manager should be forthcoming regarding their method of scoring and ranking proposals for recommendations to the City Council; AND
2. The City Council members who appointed the Homeless Commissioners involved should recuse themselves from the HCRC and homeless services vote.



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BOSS believes the issues raised are too egregious to ignore. Without appropriate corrective action taken by the City, BOSS intends to escalate the issue requesting a thorough investigation of unethical contracting practices within the City of Berkeley.

We hope the City views our inquiry as an opportunity to clean up its act so that it is in line with the image of Berkeley that is often celebrated. If we do not align our actions with our beliefs, we have merely instituted a kangaroo court that will undermine the credibility of the open, democratic process.

Sincerely,

Donald Ivy Frazier

Donald Frazier
Executive Director

Cc: Honorable Mayor Tom Bates
Honorable City Council Member Linda Maio, District 1
Honorable City Council Member Darryl Moore, District 2
Honorable City Council Member Max Anderson, District 3
Honorable City Council Member Jesse Arreguin, District 4
Honorable City Council Member Laurie Capitelli, District 5
Honorable City Council Member Susan Wengraf, District 6