

# DEDO ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION REQUEST

Date of Request: 2/22/21

Please mark one:  Bill Request or  Resolution Request

## 1. Type of Request:

- Contract/Grant Agreement  Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA)  Rezoning/Text Amendment  
 Dedication/Vacation  Appropriation/Supplemental  DRMC Change  
 Other:

Approves and provides for the execution of a proposed Grant Agreement between the City and County of Denver and the Pikes Peak Workforce Center for the amount of \$722,057.14 to deliver the Pathways Home program over a four-year period, providing job/career counseling and support services for persons exiting the justice system.

**Requesting Agency: Denver Department of Finance (DOF) on behalf of Denver Economic Development & Opportunity (DEDO)**

## 4. Contact Person:

<i>Contact person with knowledge of proposed ordinance/resolution</i>	<i>Contact person to present item at Mayor-Council and Council</i>
Name: Tony Anderson 303-517-8556 (m)	Name: Susan Liehe 720-480-3481 (m)
Email: tony.anderson@denvergov.org	Email: susan.liehe@denvergov.org

## 5. General a text description or background of the proposed request, if not included as an executive summary.

The proposed Grant Agreement, between the City and County of Denver and the Pikes Peak Workforce Center, shall provide for the Pathways Home program that provides job/career counseling and support services for persons exiting the justice system. The grant began on 10-1-2020 and will conclude on 12-31-2023. The payment made by the Pikes Peak Workforce Center to the City pursuant to and under the Grant Agreement shall be deposited into the Treasury of the City and credited to Special Fund No. 17100, which is set forth and described in Section 20-18 of the Revised Municipal Code of the City and County of Denver.

**6. City Attorney assigned to this request (if applicable):** Brad Neiman

**7. City Council District:** Citywide

## Key Contract Terms

**Type of Contract:** (e.g. Professional Services > \$600K; IGA/Grant Agreement, Sale or Lease of Real Property): Grant acceptance

**Contract control number:** OEDEV-202157429-00

**Fund:** 17100 Cost Center 0117100

**Location:**

Pikes Peak Workforce Center  
 1675 Garden of the Gods Road  
 Colorado Springs, CO 80907

Is this a new contract? Yes  No  Is this an Amendment? Yes  No  If yes, how many?

**Contract Term/Duration** (for amended contracts, include existing term dates and amended dates):

**Contract Amount** (indicate existing amount, amended amount and new contract total):

<i>Current Contract Amount</i> (A)	<i>Additional Funds</i> (B)	<i>Total Contract Amount</i> (A+B)
\$722,057.14		

  

<i>Current Contract Term</i>	<i>Added Time</i>	<i>New Ending Date</i>
10-1-20 to 12-31-23		

**Was this contractor selected by competitive process? If not, why not?** N/A

**Has this contractor provided these services to the City before?** N/A

**Source of funds:** Pikes Peak Workforce Center by and through El Paso/Teller Counties Consortium Executive Board and its Workforce Development Board

Is this contract subject to:  W/MBE  DBE  SBE  XO101  ACDBE  N/A

**WBE/MBE/DBE commitments (construction, design, DEN concession contracts):** N/A

**Who are the subcontractors to this contract?** N/A

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Simply put, the goal of the Pathways Home project is to reduce the recidivism of people who have been incarcerated. People exiting the justice system often face numerous and overwhelming barriers to success, from a lack of family support to needing skills, lacking work experience, lacking education, and of course lacking financial stability. Suitable

clothing and transportation are often out of reach, at least initially upon community re-entry; housing instability is practically a given. Financial literacy, a credit history, and the ability to qualify for a lease are all factors hindering re-entry. Experience in writing a resume and successfully interviewing may be lacking. Soft skills such as communication and conflict resolution often fall short, and on the tangible side of being employable, people whose period of incarceration lasted more than two years are extremely likely to need critical technology skills training just to catch up. Workforce development professionals believe that “quality of life begins with having a job,” and thus focus efforts to provide such jobseekers experiencing one or more barriers to employment the supports that they need at the front end to prepare to enter (or re-enter) the workforce, find a livable wage job, excel at it, and keep it.

The Pikes Peak Workforce Center is the grant administrator for this project, granting Denver Workforce Services funds to serve jobseekers who are still incarcerated but within six months of release. Denver will work with local, experienced subcontractors to engage navigators for this project who are well-versed in the field of community re-entry and the unique challenges of employment for this population. Starting with enrollments in mid-2021, our contracted navigators will meet with the soon-to-be released jobseekers who intend to reside in Denver. Supports and counseling will continue after release as well, for up to 30 months total. Denver expects to serve approximately 117 jobseekers through its lead project contractor, CommunityWorks.

This grant represents a critical link for Denver Workforce Services to provide support to the community re-entry population, which is one of our priority service categories of jobseekers – other categories including people with disabilities, Denver’s immigrant/refugee population, workers age 50+, disadvantaged youth, and dislocated workers. There is likely potential for leverage with other grant-funded initiatives that Denver is delivering, i.e., we will seek to identify jobseekers in the Pathways Home project who aspire to a career in the construction and construction-related trades; or who could benefit from additional upskilling in such fields as technology, manufacturing, health care, etc.; or who may seek the supports provided by our expanding age 50+ jobseeker programs.