



Public Comment Item 15 BOS 2/8

Nicole Gotberg <ngotberg@yahoo.com>

Wed, Feb 2, 2022 at 11:30 PM

To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Public Comment BOS 2/8 meeting item 15 - hiring Colleen Bridger of San Antonio Texas to prepare a COVID-19 Community Recovery Plan and Implementation.

While I generally support the concept of having a COVID-19 community recovery plan, assuming there is not a more pressing need that these funds are allowed to be used for, and the county will actually follow the plan that is developed. I do NOT support hiring a consultant who lives in Texas to prepare and implement this plan.

I have a number of questions on this item that I hope will be answered by county staff/BOS when this item is discussed and before it is voted on.

1. Why is a consultant who lives in Texas being recommended for this work by county staff? There is more than \$20K in travel costs alone in the cost estimate from the consultant. There are ~200K people in EDC and ~40M people in CA. Surely the county could find at least one qualified consultant if not in the county then in the state of CA, that could prepare and implement this plan for less than \$250K, rather than sending CA taxpayer dollars out of state. When the consultant lives here it eliminates the travel costs, they understand the local community which seems important to meet the objectives stated for this plan, and they spend at least some of the money they make locally and pay local and state sales tax, property tax, etc, so some of that money goes back into the local economy and government. If you hire a consultant that lives out of state they are not going to understand our local community, and none of the money you pay them goes back into the local or state economy. All you will get is a plan that likely will be a poor fit for our community so the county will not follow it, with none of the economic benefits that come from hiring someone local.

2. Was an RFP issued for this work? If yes were there any local or CA consultants that bid on preparing this plan and why are they not being recommended? If this was not put out to bid for the selection of a consultant why didn't the county put it out to bid? \$250K is a large sum of money to sole source contract.

3. The consultants cost estimate rate of \$2,000/day assuming 8hrs/day is \$250/hr, which seems like an exorbitantly high rate to pay a consultant for what this work is. When I do consulting work for government agencies my rate is less than that, and I do highly technical specialized work in a STEM field.

4. Is developing and implementing a COVID-19 Community Recovery Plan a CA state mandate or is this something the county is proposing to do voluntarily?

5. Is the state funding that would pay for a consultant to develop and implement this plan only allowed to be used for this purpose, or are there other allowable uses of these funds? If there are other allowable uses of these funds what are they and why does the county believe that this is the best use of the funds of the options?

6. If the county develops this plan will the county follow it even if the BOS does not like or agree with what it says? If you are not going to follow the plan that is developed then you are just throwing away our taxpayer dollars by making a plan.

Thank You
Nicole Gotberg
Placerville Resident, District 3



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Item 15 File 21-1919

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To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Thu, Feb 3, 2022 at 2:09 PM

Hello,

I am a resident of District 3 and I am strongly against the proposed consultant contract for Colleen Bridget. PLEASE DO NOT APPROVE THIS.

Lauren