

Funding Philosophy and Priorities

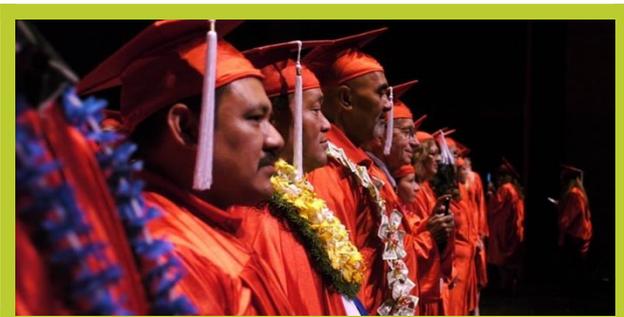
The Spirit of the Ordinance: A commitment to Social Change

Part I, Section 2 Findings of the Crime Fighting Act, 2007, commonly called Measure C discusses the impact of violence on the East Palo Alto community. The section highlights the need to invest in a coordinated system of innovative early intervention and prevention strategies to reduce crime before it occurs as the best defense to the economic and emotional cost of violence.

Municipal Code Section 3.68.150, the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Ordinance creates a dedicated revenue stream for children, youth and family services, including senior citizen services, by annually setting aside ten percent (10%) of transient occupancy (hotel) tax revenue to support comprehensive, integrated and community-based systems of services, so as to promote individual and community health, recreation and cultural arts.

When we think about the populations served with TOT and Measure C funding, the spirit of the ordinances say, **“engage, inspire, and celebrate.”**

Our goal as a City ought to embrace the spirit of each of these ordinances and be exhibited in our funding priorities and proactive commitment to **social change.**



Top Right: EPA Boxing Association
Above: Job Train Graduation



Funding Priorities

- **Evidenced Based Best Practices:** Programs that get measurable and favorable results because they are using proven strategies to serve our community.
- **Capacity Building:** Programs that demonstrate an understanding of the obstacles that inhibit people from realizing their developmental goals while enhancing the abilities that will allow them to achieve measurable and sustainable results.
- **Matching Funds:** Programs that show in-kind contributions and/or matching funds.
- **Innovation:** Programs that approach our community's most challenging problems in areas such as education, the environment, poverty, health and wellness, and social justice.
- **Collaboration:** Programs that take a holistic approach to community and capacity building in the spirit of partnership.

Funding Exclusions

Policy Statement

City of East Palo Alto grant funds are flexible and can support a wide array of program costs that are in line with the proposed program. Realistic budgets that adequately account for true cost and the aspects of service that are key to program quality should be encouraged.

EPA Grants cannot be used for:

- Any service that only incidentally benefits the target population
- Administrative fees that exceed 15% of the budget request
- Management salaries
- Trainings, Conferences, or staff development
- Pre-employment Human Resource related costs (e.g. recruitment, background checks, staff uniforms, etc.)
- Acquisition of any capital items not for the primary and direct use by the target population.
- Purchase of equipment over \$ 500.00 without prior approval
- Rental of equipment not for the exclusive implementation of the proposed program (e.g. copy machine rentals); must provide rental agreement
- Rental of property not pertaining to space needed for programs funded by the grant; must provide rental agreement
- Acquisition of real property
- Depreciation on buildings or equipment
- Maintenance, utilities, or facility improvements
- Untraceable incentive items such as gift cards,
- International travel
- Mileage/Gas/Parking
- T-shirts without pre-approval (2 quotes needed for approval)
- Food for weekly meetings
- Unhealthy snacks: sugar sweetened beverages, food with hydrogenated fat, candy, cookies, cakes, gum, potato chips
- Religious worship, instruction or proselytization
- Any activity prohibited by law