



**DATE:** July 7, 2020

**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Fire Chief

**SUBJECT:** Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute an Agreement with La Familia for Staffing Services at the COVID-19 Testing Center in an Amount Not to Exceed \$749,999

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopts a resolution (Attachment II) authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with La Familia for staffing services at the COVID-19 Testing Center in an amount not to exceed \$749,999.

### **SUMMARY**

On March 23, 2020, the Hayward Fire Department (HFD) established the nation's first free, city-mobilized COVID-19 drive-through Testing Center. Starting June 1, 2020, the City partnered with Eden Health District to provide nursing students to staff the Testing Center. As of the end of June, the nursing students must return to class and can no longer provide the same levels of staffing. To prepare for this transition, City staff has been working with La Familia on a proposal to continue the long-term operation of the Testing Center. Staff is requesting authorization from Council to negotiate and execute an agreement with La Familia to cover Testing Center operations for the next several months. During this time, staff will run a procurement process to allow the extension of operations for the next year.

### **BACKGROUND**

On March 4, 2020, the Governor of California declared a State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. On March 11, 2020, the City Manager declared a Local Emergency in the City of Hayward, which was affirmed by resolution of the Hayward City Council on March 17, 2020. As of June 29, 2020, City residents account for 16.5% of COVID-19 cases in Alameda County, and Hayward has the highest case rate in the County, with 613 cases for every 100,000 individuals.<sup>1</sup> Demand for testing continues to be high, particularly as individuals seek clearances to return to work.

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<sup>1</sup> Alameda County COVID-19 Dashboard. Retrieved on June 30, 2020 from <https://ac-hcsa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/1e0ac4385cbe4cc1bffe2cf7f8e7f0d9>

On March 23, 2020, the Hayward Fire Department (HFD) established the nation's first free, city-mobilized COVID-19 drive-through testing site. The site was first located at HFD Station 7 on Huntwood Avenue near Tennyson Road in South Hayward. On April 14, 2020, HFD moved the testing site from Station 7 to California State University, East Bay (CSUEB), to modify operations and accommodate the growing demand for COVID-19 testing. HFD worked diligently to partner with Hayward Police Department (HPD) and several community organizations, including United Ambulance, Chabot College, and the Global Support and Development nonprofit, to support the testing site operations.

Testing has been free and available to anyone regardless of place of residence, insurance/ability to pay, or immigration status, provided they met the health condition criteria in place at the time. No physician referral has ever been required. Additionally, mobile teams of specially trained Hayward firefighter-paramedics have provided mobile testing of residents and employees of nursing homes, at police departments, and community members who are experiencing homelessness.

As of June 26, 2020, the site has been in operation for fifteen weeks and has conducted 20,599 COVID-19 tests. To date, Hayward has accounted for over 50 percent of the County's testing and approximately 25 percent of the current daily testing. Since its inception, the Testing Center has served as a model for other local jurisdictions, with engagement from local cities and the County seeking guidance and lessons learned on operations of the center.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Alameda County Health Department has requested that Hayward's Testing Center remain in operation for the duration of the emergency because it provides a significant portion of Alameda County's COVID-19 testing. While the County has committed to providing funding for testing supplies, the County has not committed to reimbursing personnel costs.

As the summer fire season approached, the City sought community partnerships to keep the Testing Center operational while ensuring that HFD is staffed at full capacity during fire season. Starting June 1, 2020, the City partnered with Eden Health District to provide nursing students to staff the Testing Center. For the month of June, the volunteer nursing students have helped alleviate the operational burden from HFD. During this time, the need for the Testing Center has remained constant.

As of the end of June, the nursing students must return to class and can no longer provide the same levels of staffing. To prepare for this transition, City staff has been working with La Familia on a proposal to continue the long-term operation of the Testing Center. Staff is requesting authorization from Council to negotiate and execute an agreement with La Familia in an amount not to exceed \$749,999 for staffing services to administer the command, organization, and testing functions at the Testing Center. To provide continuity from July 1, 2020 to Council consideration of this report on July 7, the City and La Familia entered into a letter agreement in an amount not to exceed \$74,000, which amount is included within the maximum \$749,999 amount being requested in this report.

Current local, state, and federal emergency procurement requirements set limitations for expenditure reimbursement at \$750,000. Initial conversations with La Familia indicate that these funds will secure Testing Center operations for the next several months. During this time, staff will develop and execute a procurement process in alignment with all relevant reimbursement requirements, which will enable the City to further extend the operations of the COVID-19 Testing Center for the next year.

### **ECONOMIC IMPACT**

The COVID-19 pandemic has placed many of Hayward's residents into financial hardship through job loss or reduction in hours and increased medical expenses. Providing a resource for free testing, without the need for a doctor's referral, is one way in the City that can reduce the economic burden of COVID-19 on Hayward residents.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The \$749,999 in this agreement will be funded with General Fund reserves. Staff will aggressively pursue all local, state, and federal reimbursement opportunities for this expense.

### **STRATEGIC ROADMAP**

This agenda item is an operational item necessary for ensuring the operations of the City's COVID-19 Testing Center and does not directly relate to any of the projects outlined in the Council's Strategic Roadmap.

### **PUBLIC CONTACT**

There has been no public contact related to this item.

### **NEXT STEPS**

If this item is approved, staff will enter into an agreement with La Familia to provide staffing services at the COVID-19 Testing Center in an amount not-to-exceed \$749,999.

Staff will then execute a formal procurement process in alignment with applicable local, state, and federal guidelines to secure additional staffing services when the funds allocated in the agreement with La Familia proposed in this item are fully expended.

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*Recommended by:* Garrett Contreras, Fire Chief

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K McAadoo', written in a cursive style.

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Kelly McAadoo, City Manager