



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 24-311, **Version:** 1

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*Report Prepared by: Sarah Knoester, Management Analyst*

**SUBJECT:** Approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Renne Public Law Group, LLP dba Renee Public Policy Group in the Amount of \$56,000 for Grant Writing Services

### REPORT IN BRIEF

Considers approving a sixteen-month contract with Renne Public Law Group, LLP dba Renee Public Policy Group (RPPG) in the amount of \$56,000 for grant writing services.

### RECOMMENDATION

**City Council** - Adopt a motion:

- A. Approving a Professional Services Agreement with Renee Public Law Group, LLP dba Renee Public Policy Group (RPPG) in the amount of \$56,000 for grant writing services; and,
- B. Authorizing the City Manager to execute the necessary documents; and,
- C. Authorizing the Finance Officer to make the necessary budget adjustments.

### ALTERNATIVES

- 1. Approve, as recommend by Staff; or,
- 2. Approve, subject to other than recommended by Staff; or,
- 3. Deny; or,
- 4. Refer to Staff for reconsideration of specific items; or,
- 5. Continue to a future meeting.

### AUTHORITY

Merced Municipal Code Title 3 Article III Purchases Over Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars.

### CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES

Applicable to all city council priorities.

### DISCUSSION

As the City faces fiscal constraints and seeks ways to maximize resources, securing grants has become vital in providing services to our community. Grants have helped fund youth programs, pay for playground equipment, purchase vehicles, pay for additional staff, purchase safety equipment, replace or build sidewalks, fund the airport terminal replacement project, and build affordable housing.

Despite our efforts, some grant applications have not been selected. These include the Organized Retail Theft grant to deter large-scale retail theft, the Transformative Climate Communities grant to fund a community led development and infrastructure project in a disadvantaged community, and Prop 68 and other similar grants that would have provided funding to build parks.

Recognizing the importance of grants in advancing our city's goals, we look to capitalize on available opportunities. To further leverage grant funding, we propose utilizing the expertise of Renne Public Policy Group (RPPG). With their knowledge and dedicated staff, RPPG can enhance our grant-seeking efforts, tapping into various funding sources and increasing our chances of success.

To this end, Staff requests approval of an Agreement to Professional Services for RPPG to expand our grant opportunities to benefit our community.

### **IMPACT ON CITY RESOURCES**

At the February 20, 2024, City Council meeting, Council approved a supplemental appropriation of \$14,000 from the unreserved, unencumbered general fund balance to cover the costs of grant writing services from March 2024 to June 2024. For fiscal year 2024/2025, City Manager staff has requested a budget allotment of \$42,000 to cover the remaining portion of this contract.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. RPPG Professional Services Agreement