TO: HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL
FROM: CITY MANAGER DEPARTMENT: PLANNING AND COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT
DATE: JUNE 20, 2005 CMR: 287:05
SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PALO ALTO AND PROJECT SENTINEL FOR FUNDS ALLOCATED DURING FISCAL YEAR 2004/05 UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends that the City Council approve and authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute the attached amendment to the agreement with Project Sentinel to extend the term of the agreement until June 30, 2006 and provide an additional $26,800 for fair housing services in fiscal year 2005/06.

BACKGROUND
Palo Alto is required to provide fair housing services to its residents because it is a CDBG-entitlement jurisdiction. Project Sentinel is the City’s current fair housing provider and considered in good standing with the City. Project Sentinel has consistently met its goals in investigating fair housing complaints and providing outreach and education to the community. In addition, the agency has organized an annual fair housing poster contest for children to educate them on fair housing issues.

DISCUSSION
In 2003/04 and 2004/05, Project Sentinel was awarded Community Development Block Grant funding in the amount of $26,800 for the provision of fair housing services as part of a joint Request for Proposals (RFP) process with the Cities of Mountain View and Sunnyvale. The cities planned on issuing another joint RFP for fiscal years 2005/06 and 2006/07. However, due to time constraints, the cities were unable to issue the RFP for fiscal year 2005/06. The Cities of Palo Alto, Mountain View and Sunnyvale plan to issue a joint RFP to solicit applications from all interested fair housing agencies for fiscal year 2006/07.

RESOURCE IMPACT
The $26,800 amendment to the agreement will be funded with federal CDBG funds provided through Housing and Urban Development that were previously allocated for fair housing services as part of the CDBG funding allocations approved by Council on May 9, 2005.
POLICY IMPLICATIONS
The recommendation in this staff report is consistent with the City’s Comprehensive Plan, Housing Element and Consolidated Plan as well as HUD policies and does not represent any change to City policies.

PREPARED BY: _________________________________________
Eloiza Murillo-Garcia, Associate Planner-CDBG

APPROVED BY: ________________________________
JULIE CAPORGNO, Advance Planning Manager

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: _____________________________
EMILY HARRISON, Assistant City Manager

Attachment:
A – Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. Between the City of Palo Alto and Project Sentinel For Funds Allocated During the Fiscal Year 2004/05 Under the Community Development Block Grant Program

B- Agreement in the Amount of $26,800 with Project Sentinel for Funds Allocated During the Fiscal Year 2004/05 Under the Community Development Block Grant Program

Cc: Project Sentinel
CDBG Citizens Advisory Committee