

DATE: NOVEMBER 4, 2002

TO: PASADENA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

FROM: CYNTHIA J. KURTZ, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,000 TO THE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL OF PASADENA AREA CHURCHES FOR THE PROVISION OF BAD WEATHER EMERGENCY SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Pasadena Community Development Commission ("Commission") take the following actions:

- A. Approve a grant in the amount of \$30,000 to the Ecumenical Council of Pasadena Area Churches from the Low and Moderate Income Housing Trust Fund for the provision of Bad Weather Emergency Shelter Services in accordance with the terms and provisions of the contractual agreement between the Commission and the Ecumenical Council; and
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute, and the Secretary to attest, the contract with the Ecumenical Council for said services.

ACTION OF ADVISORY BODIES:

This item was reviewed and recommended by the Community Development Committee (CDC) on Thursday, October 24, 2002.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Ecumenical Council of Pasadena Area Churches, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has requested a grant for the Bad Weather Shelter Program. The shelter is open each night from 8:30 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. when the overnight temperature is expected to be 40 degrees or lower and/or there is a 40% chance of rain expected in the evening hours during the period of November 28, 2002 through March 31, 2003. The Bad Weather Shelter, located at the Pasadena Covenant Church, 539 N. Lake Avenue, will provide an anticipated 4,000 units of shelter service (unit of service - one person, one night) for an anticipated total of 60 nights. Approximately 120 beds are available to shelter individuals and families. Dinner is also provided for the guests.

This year the Bad Weather Shelter Program will continue its efforts to assist its guests through a health services component. The Program will partner with Passageways, a multi purpose service center for homeless persons. Passageways will provide mental health outreach workers to assist those who wish to seek mental health services. Also this

year, the new position of Medical Coordinator will be added to the Bad Weather Shelter staff. This person will expand the level of medical services made available to the guests by identifying, recruiting and organizing volunteer medical organizations and professionals to help the patrons with their healthcare needs. The healthcare volunteers will provide basic healthcare services for conditions such as colds, flu, and other upper respiratory infections, as well as medical intervention for minor illnesses and injuries.

BACKGROUND:

The Bad Weather Shelter (BWS) was established during the 1986 – 87 winter season in response to the needs of the homeless population who lacked adequate refuge during the cold and rainy season. The Ecumenical Council of Pasadena Area Churches ("Ecumenical Council"), is the umbrella agency of emergency shelter organizations, social services providers, and volunteers, and will sponsor this year's BWS program. Last year fourteen organizations volunteered their time for the provision of services. Five members of those organizations form with the Ecumenical Council an advisory committee. They are: Union Station Foundation, Pacific Clinics - Passageways, Pasadena Covenant Church, Worldwide Church of God and the City of Pasadena - Housing Division. The purpose of the advisory committee is to advise the Ecumenical Council on the location of shelter, availability of food, supplies, and organization of volunteers.

Since 1987, the Pasadena Community Development Commission has provided over \$205,000 for Bad Weather Shelter services. During the 2001-2002 season the shelter was open 54 nights and provided shelter to approximately 447 individuals (unduplicated) for a total of 3,506 units of shelter.

The BWS budget for the 2002-2003 season as submitted by the Ecumenical Council totals **\$58,740** for an anticipated 60 nights of operation. This year (2002-2003 season) it is recommend that the Ecumenical Council receive a grant of **\$30,000** from the Commission. It is anticipated that the remaining funds will be obtained from the following sources:

Federal Emergency Food and Shelter Program	\$18,000
Private donations	<u>10,740</u>
TOTAL	\$28,740

Housing Trust funds would be used to pay for program costs such as shelter staff, rent, utilities and accounting services.

Volunteers will mail and deliver flyers (English/Spanish) to local churches and shelters, community-based service centers, and public offices for the purpose of announcing the availability of the Bad Weather Shelter. Approximately 125 Pasadena area congregations will receive information bulletins regarding the Bad Weather Shelter. In addition, flyers will be delivered to the Jackie Robinson Center, Villa-Parke, El Centro de Accion Social, AIDS Service Center, libraries and public counters, including City Hall. A toll-free information hotline, which provides current bad weather shelter information in both English and Spanish will be available daily through March 2002.

For this year, commitments to send volunteers to assist at the Bad Weather Shelter have been made by eleven congregations and organizations. They are as follows: Abounding Grace Ministries, All Saints Episcopal Church, Altadena Baptist Church, Bishop Gooden Home, Lutheran Churches, City of Pasadena, Pasadena Covenant Church, St. Edmund's Episcopal Church, St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church, Union Station Foundation and Worldwide Church of God.

STATISTICAL DATA:

In addition to meeting the established criteria for opening the shelter (i.e., opening when temperature is expected to be 40 degrees or lower and/or if rain is expected during the evening hours), the shelter staff is proposing to provide 31 consecutive nights of shelter during the period of January 1, 2003 through January 31, 2003. The purpose of being open for a consecutive time period will enable the shelter to meet several goals:

- 1) Provide continuous nightly food and shelter to needy persons during the coldest winter months of the year, and
- 2) Enable emergency shelter staff to (a) conduct a more in depth survey of those persons who utilize the shelter; (b) conduct needs assessments to determine their needs as homeless individuals, and (c) establish case management on an ongoing basis for a greater period of time.
- 3) Enable staff to compile comprehensive statistical data of an actual population count of homeless individuals in the City of Pasadena, help in determining the kinds of services the homeless population is actually using and/or not using and the kinds of services that are needed.

This statistical data is required for community information purposes, and federal funding applications. In both cases, it is imperative that current and accurate data be readily available for use by the City of Pasadena. This data is also made available as a resource to the public and to local agencies seeking technical assistance in assessing needed services, grant writing and the processing of grant applications.

PROGRAM GOALS:

The following are the goals for Bad Weather Shelter for the 2002-2003 season:

- Provide 4,000 units of shelter
- Be open an estimated 60 nights
- Provide 120 shelter beds
- Provide a meal for the guests each night the shelter is open
- Compile statistical data on the numbers of homeless individuals in Pasadena
- Establish Case Management with homeless individuals
- Provide information and social service referrals as need

HOUSING IMPACT:

There will be no net increase in the number of housing units. However, approximately 120 beds will be available to homeless individuals and families during the cold and rainy season (November 28, 2002 through March 31, 2002). The provision of the Bad Weather Shelter is consistent with the Community Development Commission's Affordable Housing Plan 2000-2005, the Commission's 2000-2005 Implementation Plan, the Community Development Committee's Fiscal Year 2002-2003 Priority Work Program, the City of Pasadena General Plan (Housing Element), the Northwest Pasadena Community Plan, and the City of Pasadena Consolidated Plan (2000-2005).

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY IMPACT:

The Bad Weather Shelter benefits children, youth and families by providing a portal for the provision of services to homeless families with children. It is the policy of the Ecumenical Council, that when families with children present themselves at the Bad Weather Shelter, they will be accommodated that night at the shelter. On the following day they will be referred to one of the City's Continuum of Care providers to assist them with their long term housing and human service needs. On subsequent nights, if appropriate and resources are available, the family will be given a voucher to stay at a local motel for a maximum of 5 nights. Being housed in a motel is more suitable environment for families with children than the shelter.

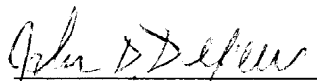
FISCAL IMPACT:

These funds have been included in the FY 2002 operating budget in the Commission's Affordable Housing Program BWS/Emergency Shelter Account # 8170-810-684120-51501.

Respectfully Submitted,


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
Chief Executive Officer

Prepared by:


JOHN D. DEPEW
Program Coordinator

Approved by:


RICHARD J. BRUCKNER
Director, Planning and Development Department