DATE:

JULY 14, 2003

TO:

PASADENA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

FROM:

CYNTHIA J. KURTZ, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**SUBJECT:** 

APPROVAL OF SUBMISSION OF THE 2003 CONTINUUM OF CARE

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE APPLICATION TO THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF

HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Pasadena Community Development Commission ("Commission") adopt a resolution:

- 1) Authorizing the filing with the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the 2003Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Assistance Application for a funding request of \$2,746,243 for ten projects; and
- 2) Authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to execute, and the Secretary to attest, the 2003 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Application and all other related documents, agreements and amendments.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Approval of the subject recommendation and a favorable determination by HUD on the Commission's CoC Homeless Assistance Application can potentially provide over \$2.74 million in federal grant funds for housing and supportive services to the homeless population in Pasadena. The funds would be allocated to ten selected projects (Table A) providing: client outreach/intake/assessment, transitional housing, permanent housing, supportive services, and a management information system. The subject recommendation was reviewed and supported by the Housing Subcommittee of the Community Development Committee on June 18, 2003, and by the Committee Development Committee on June 26, 2003.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

On April 25, 2003, HUD released its Super Notice of Funding Availability (SuperNOFA) for Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance to assist communities to build viable continuum of care systems. The deadline for the Commission to submit an application in response to the Super NOFA is July 15, 2003. Nationwide \$1.060 billion are available in competitive grant funding under this program.

# **HUD Continuum of Care Strategy**

HUD has made addressing homelessness a high priority and determined that a Continuum of Care (CoC) approach is the most effective. HUD defines the CoC as a system of homeless services with four basic components: 1) outreach, intake and assessment; 2) emergency shelters and appropriate services; 3) transitional housing with support services; and 4) permanent housing or permanent supportive housing to meet the long-term needs of individuals/families. The federal guidelines mandate that 30% of all funding (nationwide) must be awarded to permanent housing projects. The CoC approach helps communities plan for and provide a balance of emergency, transitional and permanent housing and service resources to

address the various needs of homeless individuals/families and assist their transition from the streets to jobs and independent living.

Presently, the City of Pasadena has a HUD approved CoC strategy which sets forth immediate action to address homelessness and other special needs. In addition, the City and Housing and Homeless Network are contemplating development of a ten-year plan to identify needed services and housing for homeless persons in future years. The Pasadena 10-Year Homeless Strategy would function as 1) a planning and implementation document for the City which will be built upon community participation; 2) the basis for application of federal funds under the HUD formula grant programs; 3) the basis for application of other federal funds as well as state, county, local, and private funds; and 4) an action plan that will provide a basis for assessing specific projects, costs, and measurable results.

# Community Participation/Prioritization of Gaps

HUD's SuperNOFA requires that applicants prioritize their funding requests in terms of gaps within each locality's CoC system. Commission staff, in partnership with the Housing and Homeless Network, assembled a committee comprised of City staff, representatives from the Network, and non-profit service providers to identify homeless service and housing needs, inventory the existing resources available to serve the homeless community, and identify and prioritize gaps in homeless service and housing delivery. The following priorities were determined:

- First Priority Permanent Supportive Housing
- Second Priority Renewal/continuation of Existing Homeless Assistance Projects/Programs
  (Passageways; Union Station Transitional Housing; Euclid Villa; Centennial Place Supportive
  Services; CHOISS Program; Casa Maria; and HMIS).
- Third Priority Supportive Services in Permanent Supportive Housing Developments.

The prioritized gaps are supported by homeless statistical data gathered from the City of Pasadena 2000 Homeless Count, the Five-Year Consolidated Plan (2000-2005), the Commission's Implementation Plan, 2002-2003 Bad Weather Shelter Program and the City of Pasadena Housing Element of the Comprehensive General Plan.

#### Request for Proposals (RFP) Process

The Commission released its 2003 CoC Request for Proposal (RFP) on May 12, 2003. Notices were sent to service-based agencies and advertised in local newspapers. The deadline for submittal of proposals was June 12, 2003, 5:00 p.m. Technical assistance was offered to all interested proposers. On May 15, 2003 a Technical Assistance workshop was conducted to address questions and concerns of possible proposers regarding the preparation and submission of their proposal.

Twelve proposals were received in response to the RFP. Each proposal was evaluated for threshold criteria by the review panel comprised of members of the Housing and Homeless Network and City staff. Additionally, as part of the evaluation process, each proposer was given the opportunity to provide an oral presentation before the panel. The evaluation criteria as outlined in the RFP included the following: Project Narrative; Continuum of Care Strategy; Experience/Administrative Capacity; Financial Capacity/Leveraging; Addresses Priority Need; Renewal Projects; Affirmative Action; and Local Preference. Ten proposals met threshold criteria, were recommended for inclusion in the Commission's CoC application to HUD, and are described and ranked in Table A. Two of the selected proposals were Commission submittals. The remaining two proposals, one from Cal State Community Services and one from Heavenly Helpers, failed to meet the threshold and other requirements and are not recommended for funding by the review panel (Table B).

Of the ten recommended projects, eight are renewal projects: Passageways/Pacific Clinics, Union Station Foundation/Euclid Villa and the Transitional Housing Program, URDC/Casa Maria, Pacific Housing Alliance/Centennial Place, Serra Project/CHOISS Program I & CHOISS Program II, and Commission/HMIS. Renewal projects are existing projects whose HUD funding will expire during the 2004 calendar year. The two new projects are: Commission/Permanent Housing Program and Homes for Life/Ashtabula Homes. The Commission will submit the Permanent Housing Program as "grantee" and, if awarded, select a qualified sponsor to implement the program.

#### **HOUSING IMPACT:**

Approval of the subject recommendation has the potential to provide housing and supportive services for over 1,000 homeless individuals/families. The proposed projects are in accordance with the approved Pasadena Continuum of Care system which sets forth the mechanism to provide affordable decent, safe and sanitary housing with supportive services. All projects are consistent with the Housing Element, Five Year Consolidated Plan, Five Year Public Housing Plan, and Implementation Plan 1999-2004.

# FISCAL IMPACT:

Submittal of the 2003 Continuum of Care (CoC) Homeless Assistance Application and subsequent approval by HUD will contribute over \$2.74 million to enhance the local CoC system and ensure the continued delivery of supportive housing services for approximately 1,000 homeless persons residing within the City of Pasadena.

Respectfully Submitted

CYNTHIA J. KURTZ Chief Executive Officer Prepared by:

ANNE LANSING
Program Coordinator

Reviewed by:

GREGORY ROBINSON
For Housing/Community Development
Administrator

Approved by

RICHARD J. BRUCKNER
Director, Planning and Development
Department