

DATE: OCTOBER 20, 2003
FROM: CYNTHIA J. KURTZ, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
TO: PASADENA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
SUBJECT: PLANNING FRAMEWORK FOR 10-YEAR STRATEGY TO END HOMELESSNESS

RECOMMENDATION

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

- 1) Approve the Planning Framework for preparation of the 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness; and
- 2) Delegate responsibility for developing the 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness to the Housing and Homeless Network.

ADVISORY BODIES

On October 9, 2003, the Community Development Committee unanimously recommended Commission approval of the above actions with the condition that a Request for Proposal for consultant services be issued outlining the scope of work and deliverables required for preparation of the 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Pasadena Community Development Commission has indicated its desire to plan and implement a 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness. This strategy will focus on all components of the existing Pasadena Continuum of Care housing and supportive service delivery system as mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Successful preparation of a 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness will require that several key tasks be accomplished. These tasks include: identifying stakeholders; creating and convening a working group; gathering information and data on homelessness; defining community issues and problems about homelessness; developing strategies to address these issues and problems; soliciting stakeholder and community feedback on the prepared strategies; creating an Implementation Plan; and final review and approval of the 10-Year Strategy by the City Council/Pasadena Community Development Commission.

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8.B.

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.

BACKGROUND

On July 14, 2003, following authorization for the filing of the 2003 Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Application, the Commission directed staff to return within 90 days with a scope and planning framework for developing a 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness in Pasadena. The attached Exhibit A provides a comprehensive outline of this planning framework.

10- Year Strategy to End Homelessness:

The 10-Year Strategy will be framed around four integrated components:

- 1) **Planning and Coordination:** Devise a plan to end homelessness and improve coordination between the agencies serving homeless people;
- 2) **Permanent Housing:** Build and preserve affordable permanent housing through rehabilitation, new development and rental subsidies;
- 3) **Prevention:** Prevent homelessness before it happens; and
- 4) **Maximizing Resources:** Expedite and target services that enable homeless persons to obtain housing and live independently.

It is recommended that, consistent with the approach adopted by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority and other jurisdictions, a working group on ending homelessness be established to examine various strategies, both public and private, to effectively deliver existing and new assistance to the city's homeless and at risk of homelessness population. The working group, with technical assistance from Planning and Development, Housing and Community Development Division staff and consultant(s), would assess the comparative benefits of particular programs given market and demographic changes. Staff believes that the Housing and Homeless Network of Greater Pasadena is the appropriate core body to act as the working group to develop this strategy. The Network would be strengthened by the participation of representatives from throughout the field of stakeholders. Meetings on the 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness would commence in January and last approximately nine months. Staff will return to all appropriate committees and commissions for approval after the 10-Year Strategy has been developed.

The prepared 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness would act as a foundation for service delivery targeted to specific homeless populations for all existing programs in the Continuum of Care. The anticipated major outcomes of the 10-Year Strategy are 1) to allow homeless persons in need of assistance to access the service delivery system quicker, and 2) establish a network with various mechanisms to identify and assist at-risk households. The 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness would also serve as a basis for long-range planning and the development of funding requests for new and existing targeted programs. The Implementation Plan identifies within the 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness would be reviewed annually to ensure that it remains an effective blueprint for targeted service delivery.

The Housing and Homeless Network of Greater Pasadena:

In December 1991, under the direction of the City's Planning and Development Department/Housing and Community Development Division, an ad hoc group of housing and homeless service providers first began to coordinate housing and homeless service delivery efforts within the City of Pasadena. City staff and representatives of community agencies found this approach so successful that they formed a coalition and began to meet on a regular basis as the Housing and Homeless Network. Since 1995, the Housing and Homeless Network has met monthly and serves as the principal planning entity for the City's Continuum of Care application submission to HUD.

On September 4, 2003, the Housing and Homeless Network held an initial meeting to consider various approaches for developing a 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness. At this meeting, it was identified that stakeholders who include representatives from business districts, coalitions/committees, currently or formerly homeless persons, neighborhood associations, faith-based associations, corporations, nonprofit agencies, elected officials, and public and private funders should make up the working group that will develop this strategy. It was agreed by those present that the Housing and Homeless Network, the principal planning entity for the City's homeless service delivery system, should serve as the core body of the working group.

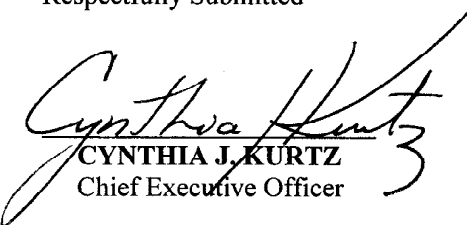
HOUSING IMPACT

Approval of the subject recommendation will result in the planning and implementation of a coordinated system of care that will effectively address homelessness and its corresponding impact upon the community. Homeless persons will be able to access available services more quickly, and at-risk households will be identified. The proposed project is consistent with the General Plan Housing Element, Implementation Plan 1999-2004, Five Year Public Housing Authority Plan, Five Year Consolidated Plan, and Northwest Plan Housing Element.


FISCAL IMPACT

It is estimated that an amount not to exceed \$150,000 will be needed to prepare the 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness. These funds will be used to obtain consultant services, conduct a homeless count and survey, gather and disseminate data on homelessness, prepare necessary documents including a preliminary and final report, provide staff training, and secure meeting locations and necessary goods and supplies for meetings. The funds are available in the Affordable Housing General Administration account no. 810-684120-51011.

Respectfully Submitted


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
Chief Executive Officer

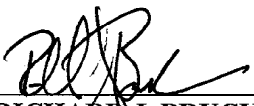
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ATTACHMENT