



# Agenda Report

April 9, 2018

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Housing and Career Services Department

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH FOOTHILL UNITY CENTER FOR RAPID REHOUSING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$76,750 IN STATE OF CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT FUNDS**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

- 1) Find that the recommended action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines per Section 15061 (b)(3), the "General Rule" that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment;
- 2) Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Foothill Unity Center as a result of a competitive selection process, as specified by Section 4.08.047 of the Pasadena Municipal Code, in connection with the award of State of California Emergency Solutions Grant Funds for the Rapid Rehousing Program in the amount of \$76,750 for one year, with the option to renew for one additional year for a total funding of up to \$153,500 over two years, subject to approval of the City Manager.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The City of Pasadena was approved by the State of California to receive funding from the State Allocation of Emergency Solutions Grant funding, following the submittal of an application in response to a Notice of Funding Availability from the State. Submittal of the application was approved by Council on July 10, 2017.

As part of the funding application and allocation process, the City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on May 1, 2017 to select a qualified non-profit agency to operate a Rapid Rehousing Program for homeless persons. The RFP was transmitted to the Pasadena Partnership to End Homelessness, which includes nineteen agencies

providing homeless services in the Pasadena area. One non-profit agency, Foothill Unity Center, submitted a proposal for this activity. Foothill Unity Center is a multi-service agency serving low-income households in Pasadena. They serve as the federally designated Community Action Agency for the foothills area of the San Gabriel Valley, providing food, shelter, transportation, and referrals to service. Foothill Unity Center has been providing emergency shelter and short term rental assistance to homeless and at-risk households for 37 years. For FY18, they received \$9,592 in Emergency Solutions Grant funding through the City to provide Homeless Prevention assistance.

### **SCOPE OF SERVICES**

Under a one-year contract with the City for \$76,750 with the option for a second year renewal for a two-year total of \$153,500, Foothill Unity Center will operate the Rapid Rehousing Program providing short-term rental assistance and case management for up to ten individuals experiencing homelessness. The program will provide rental assistance, including assistance with security deposits and utilities, to assist persons to move back into housing after experiencing homelessness. Case management services will include assistance to augment income; credit repair; access to healthcare services, legal services, and other supportive services; and supplemental food assistance. The program will serve individuals who are found to be most likely to be able to be stabilized using short-term assistance, following a comprehensive evaluation using a standardized assessment tool. This tool, the VI-SPDAT, has been adopted by Los Angeles County homeless services systems, including the Pasadena Continuum of Care.

### **COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

Approval of the subject recommendation has the potential to provide funding for housing and supportive services for homeless individuals/families in Pasadena, and supports and promotes the quality of life and the local economy -- a goal of the City Council's Strategic Objectives. Submittal of this Solicitation is in accordance with the Pasadena Continuum of Care system, General Plan Housing Element, Five-Year Consolidated Plan, and Five-Year Public Housing Authority Plan.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

The action proposed herein is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b)(3), the "General Rule" provision of CEQA which applies to projects which may have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. The submittal of an application to HCD for ESG grant funding will not have a significant effect on the environment and, hence, is not subject to CEQA.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Approval of the subject recommendation will result in the expenditure of \$76,750 in Emergency Solutions Grant Funds (Fund 224) for the Rapid Rehousing Program. The expenditure for this program is included in the Department's adopted FY 2018 operating budget.

Respectfully submitted,



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