



# Agenda Report

December 6, 2021

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Housing Department

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND CONTRACT NO. 31830 WITH THE FID GROUP, DBA FRIENDS IN DEED, FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE PROVISION OF MOTEL-BASED SHELTER SERVICES INCLUDING WEATHER-ACTIVATED MOTEL VOUCHERS DURING THE UPCOMING WINTER SEASON**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council take the following actions:

- 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 "common sense" provision that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and
- 2) Authorize the City Manager to amend Contract No. 31830 with The FID Group, dba Friends In Deed, to increase the total contract value by \$108,000 for a not-to-exceed amount of \$158,000.

## **BACKGROUND:**

In late June 2020, the Department created the Scattered Site Emergency Motel Program in response to the COVID-19 pandemic which served people experiencing homelessness identified as high risk for seriously illness or death if they were to contract COVID-19. The program provided protective non-congregate shelter at motel sites in and near Pasadena and was administered by four local homeless services providers, including Friends In Deed. The City entered into Purchase Orders with each participating agency with Emergency Solutions Grant funding authorized by the Coronavirus, Aid, Relief, & Economic Security Act (ESG-CV). In response to declining COVID positivity rates and increasing vaccination rates, the Department ended SSEMP in August 2021. Over the course of fifteen months, the program served 79 people, 20 of whom obtained permanent housing and an additional 19 who were matched to a permanent housing resource and were in the process of finding and/or leasing

and operated by Friends In Deed (Contract 31830) and Union Station Homeless Services. The addition of \$108,000 of ESG-CV funds to Contract 31830 will allow for the continued provision of motel-based shelter services ("motel vouchers") for these individuals until they obtain permanent housing. Authorization to add ESG-CV funds to a Union Station Homeless Services' contract for motel services will be brought to Council at a later date.

These additional funds will also support the provision of weather-activated motel-based shelter services during the upcoming winter season. As in the 2020-2021 winter season, Friends In Deed will not operate the Bad Weather Shelter this year due to challenges with securing a site in addition to concerns about safe operations during the pandemic. Friends In Deed will provide short-term motel stays when overnight temperatures are projected to drop below 40 degrees or there is a greater than 40% chance of rain. The Department is working with the Public Health Department and other contracted homeless service provider agencies to also provide weather-activated motel services this season.

As recommended, City funding for the existing contract with Friends In Deed (Contract No. 31830) to administer motel-based emergency shelter services, including weather-activated motel vouchers, currently with a budget of \$50,000, would be increased with additional Emergency Solutions Grant CARES (ESG-CV) funds in the amount of \$108,000, for a total not-to-exceed contract amount of \$158,000.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

The actions proposed herein are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b)(3), the "common sense" 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 approval of amendments to existing contracts to add funding and extend the term will not have a significant effect on the environment and, hence, is not subject to CEQA.

### **COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

Approval of the recommended action will provide weather-activated, protective non-congregate shelter at motels for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Pasadena during the 2021-2022 winter season. This action is consistent with the City Council's goal to support and promote the quality of life and local economy. The proposed actions are in accordance with the Pasadena Continuum of Care system, General Plan Housing Element, Five-Year Consolidated Plan, and Five-Year Public Housing Authority Plan.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

City Council approval of an amendment to Contract No. 31830 will have no fiscal impact as the additional ESG-CV grant funds are included in the Department's adopted FY 2022 Operating Budget.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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