



Agenda Report

September 20, 2021

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Housing Department

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES TO PROVIDE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

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 Section 15061 (b)(3), the "common sense" provision that CEQA only applies to projects that may have a significant effect on the environment; and
- 2) Authorize the City of Pasadena to enter into a contract with the City of Los Angeles in the amount of \$280,670 to provide Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)-funded rental assistance; and
- 3) Authorize the City Manager to execute, and the City Clerk to attest, all related documents, agreements and amendments.

BACKGROUND:

The Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program was established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in 1991 by the AIDS Housing Opportunities Act to provide support for housing assistance and services to low-income persons with HIV/AIDS and their families. The HOPWA program strategy is to allow states and metropolitan areas that have a high incidence of AIDS cases to design long-term comprehensive strategies to meet the housing needs of persons with AIDS. HUD awards HOPWA funds to one government entity in each metropolitan area. The City of Los Angeles is the coordinating agency administering HOPWA grant funds for all of Los Angeles County.

The City of Pasadena Department of Housing has administered the HOPWA tenant-based rental assistance program since 1995. Renewal of this contract will provide \$280,670 in HOPWA tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA) funding for approximately nineteen new and ongoing very low-income households living with HIV/AIDS. The renewal funding consists of \$238,860.17 for rental assistance and \$42,225.24 for personnel costs and the contract term runs from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The total contract amount is determined by the average rental assistance paid for fifteen participants in past contract periods plus actual costs for City staff administering the program.

The HOPWA program provides twelve months of rental assistance via a housing voucher to very low-income persons, both individuals and in families, diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. Applicants are referred by community agencies serving persons living with HIV/AIDS, including the Foothill AIDS Project. After the initial twelve months of assistance, program participants transition to the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) for ongoing rental assistance.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

Approval of the subject recommendation has the potential to provide housing for approximately nineteen individuals/families living with HIV/AIDS. The proposed recommendation is in accordance with the approved 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 "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 entering into a contract for HOPWA funding will not have a significant effect on the environment and, hence, is not subject to CEQA.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact as a result of this action and there will be no indirect or support cost requirements. The HOPWA TBRA program revenue and expenses totaling \$280,670 for the contract period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 are included in the Department of Housing's adopted FY 2022 operating budget.

Respectfully submitted,



for WILLIAM K. HUANG
Housing Director

Prepared by:



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Program Coordinator

Approved by:



STEVE MERMELL
City Manager