



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
June 30, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
Submitted by: Lisa Warhuus, Director, Health, Housing & Community Services Department
Subject: Grant Agreement Amendment: Alameda County Coordinated Entry System (CES) Grant

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or her designee to:

1. Receive \$878,449 in additional funding and execute any agreements and amendments resulting from an augmentation and extension of a three-year grant from Alameda County Health Care Services Agency (HCSA) to fund a North County Housing Resource Center and Coordinated Entry System to Prevent and End Homelessness through December 31, 2020, increasing the contract amount to \$5,309,786, and extending the end date of the contract to December 31, 2020;
2. Execute resulting contracts for services with Bay Area Community Services (BACS) and the Cities of Albany and Oakland to fulfill the purpose of the grant; and
3. Retain \$90,004 in funding for staff in the Health, Housing & Community Services Department (HHCS) for program delivery.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Should City Council approve the recommendation above, Alameda County HCSA will add \$878,449 in additional funding to an existing three-year contract with the City of Berkeley, and the contract will be extended through December 31, 2020 for a total revenue contract amount not to exceed \$5,309,786.

The City Manager will retain \$90,004 for program delivery and deposit these funds into the Housing & Community Services Division of HHCS. The City Manager will also amend or enter into the following contracts adding funds as follows:

1. \$15,500 to a contract with the City of Albany for staff time spent on HRC activities for a total not to exceed \$108,500 for the period August 1, 2017 through December 31, 2020.

2. \$14,058 for a contract with the City of Oakland to serve homeless families in Berkeley through a single-entry point called the North County Family Front Door for the period July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020.
3. \$758,887 to a contract with Bay Area Community Services for a total not to exceed \$7,601,822 for the period July 1, 2019-June 30, 2023.

County funds for the Cities of Albany and Oakland are only available through December 31, 2020.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Alameda County's Health Care Services Agency (HCSA) and Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) are extending its Coordinated Entry System contracts to support the ongoing operations of the five regional Housing Resource Centers through December 31, 2020, to spend down Whole Person Care funds through the end of its contract period with the State Department of Health Care Services. This extended period will also allow for the spend-down of Alameda County Boomerang Funds.

The City of Berkeley began operating its own Housing Resource Center (HRC) in January of 2016 through a contract with Berkeley Food and Housing Project. On June 25, 2019, Council approved shifting this contract to BACS, which began operating the HRC in July 2019. The City of Berkeley's FY2020 allocation for BACS is approximately \$1.2 million which is matched by approximately \$1.2 million from Alameda County. The contract with BACS also includes funding for the Pathways STAIR navigation center, which was awarded approximately \$2.4 million in FY2020. The HRC currently has capacity to serve 175 clients in housing navigation services at any given point in time. Funding through Alameda County will continue to support the existing operations and staffing at the HRC (to help clients obtain and maintain housing), through rapid re-housing, other temporary financial assistance and permanent housing. A small percentage of the funding will continue to be used for City staff to implement the program, which includes reporting, billing and monitoring contract deliverables.

BACKGROUND

In February 2017 Alameda County's Health Care Services Agency (HCSA) and Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) released a Request for Proposals for Housing Resources Centers and Coordinated System to Prevent and End Homelessness. The intent of the funding released through the RFP was to create a network of regional Housing Resource Centers which deliver services as part of a Coordinated Entry System (CES) for persons experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness throughout Alameda County. The system has focused on helping people get and keep permanent housing as quickly as possible.

Contracts awarded under the RFP were funded by a combination of sources:

1. Whole Person Care funds: a pilot program under Medi-Cal Section 1115 Waiver which is targeted to "high utilizers" of expensive health care services;

2. “Boomerang” funds: an annual allocation of funds resulting from the dissolution of the County’s Redevelopment Agency, which will be targeted to addressing affordable housing and homelessness; and
3. Federal Continuum of Care Funds: funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) which can cover certain costs of operating a county-wide Coordinated Entry System.

Funding under the RFP was divided into five regions, and was based on an estimated demand for homeless services across the regions using point-in-time homeless count and annual data collected in the county-wide Homeless Management Information System. The City of Berkeley applied on April 4, 2017 as the lead agency for funding for the North County region that includes Albany and Emeryville. The application was for a Housing Resource Center that serves single homeless individuals only.

Since the majority of the homeless population in Berkeley, Albany and Emeryville is single adults, the cities partner with the city of Oakland to serve homeless families through a single-entry point called the North County Family Front Door. Oakland was awarded funding by Alameda County under the same RFP to provide services to homeless families throughout northern Alameda County, including Berkeley, Albany and Emeryville.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental impacts or opportunities associated with the subject of this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

A Coordinated Entry System (CES) is a standardized method to connect people experiencing homelessness to resources available in the community. HUD requires that every community receiving HUD funding throughout the country operate a CES. Alameda County receives almost \$34 million each year from HUD for homeless services, which would be at risk of recapture if the County did not develop a CES. EveryOne Home, the body charged with coordinating efforts to end homelessness in Alameda County, led a county-wide effort over the past two years to design a county-wide CES¹. Continued participation in the county-wide system is critical to the city of Berkeley and its providers. Programs located in Berkeley receive more than \$4.8 million in HUD funding each year to provide transitional and permanent supportive housing to hundreds of homeless people.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Kristen Lee, Manager, Housing & Community Services Division, (510) 981-5427

¹ See here for more information: <http://everyonehome.org/our-work/coordinated-entry-system/>

Attachments:
1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

ALAMEDA COUNTY COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM (CES) GRANT

WHEREAS, the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency (HCSA) awarded funding to the City of Berkeley to fund a Housing Resource Center and Coordinated System to Prevent and End Homelessness; and

WHEREAS, on September 14, 2017 the City of Berkeley entered into a three-year contract amounting to \$4,431,337 with Alameda County HCSA, with approximately \$1.7 million available in year one (FY2018), and \$1.3 million available in years two (FY19) and three (FY20); and

WHEREAS, on May 7, 2020 HCSA notified the City of Berkeley that it would extend the term of the contract through December 31, 2020 and add approximately \$878,449 in funding, for a new total amount not to exceed \$5,309,786; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley previously entered into contracts with the cities of Albany and Oakland, and with the non-profit Bay Area Community Services for services related to the HCSA grant for the HRC.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is hereby authorized to receive \$878,449 in funding from the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency (HCSA) (budget code 336-51-504-530-0000-000-444-636110) and execute any agreements and amendments to support a continuation of homeless coordinated entry services serving Berkeley, Albany and Emeryville.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager or her designee is authorized to:

1. Amend Contract Number 31900273 with Bay Area Community Services adding up to \$758,887 for FY2021 to an existing allocation of \$6,936,500 for a total not to exceed \$7,695,387; and
2. Amend Contract Number #119536-1 with the City of Albany, adding \$15,500, for a total not to exceed \$108,500 for the period August 1, 2017 through December 31, 2020 for services related to the operation of the North County HRC; and
3. Enter into a contract with the City of Oakland for a total not to exceed \$14,058 for the period July 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020 for services related to the operation of the North County Family Front Door; and
4. Deposit the remaining \$90,004 in funding into the Housing & Community Services Division of HHCS, budget codes 336-51-504-535-0000-000-444-51110 / 336-51-504-535-0000-000-444-520560.

A signed copy of said documents, agreements and any amendments will be kept on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

