



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
April 20, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
 From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager  
 Submitted by: Lisa Warhuus, Director, Health, Housing & Community Services  
 Subject: Shelter Plus Care Program Renewal Grants

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to receive funds and execute any agreements and amendments resulting from the renewal of the following grants:

1. Two Shelter Plus Care grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD): a) \$4,124,485 for the Supportive Housing Collaborative for the period June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022; b) \$2,411,026 for the COACH Project grant for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.
2. One grant from the County of Alameda for \$881,046 to provide tenant-based rental assistance to individuals whom are chronically homeless and disabled. Some assistance may be further extended to individuals' families as a part of the supported household on an individual case by case basis for the period of March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2022.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Adopting this recommendation will add a total of \$7,416,557 in funding to the Housing & Community Services Division budget. The total award amount represents a 12% increase in funding from FY2020. HUD allows up to 7% of each grant to be used to administer the rental subsidies to support the Health, Housing and Community Service Department's grant-related administrative activities. The two HUD grants will have the revenues deposited and be expensed from the Shelter Plus Care Fund. The grant from Alameda County will have the revenues deposited and be expensed from the Shelter Plus Care County Fund.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley submits applications each year to the Alameda County Continuum of Care to renew funding for the Shelter Plus Care grants. This application is combined with others throughout Alameda County and submitted to HUD. Awards for projects are prioritized and ranked based on performance; the City's Shelter Plus Care program has performed well over the past decades and is renewed each year by HUD.

These Shelter Plus Care grants provide funds for rental subsidies and their administration from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Previously the City received four HUD Shelter Plus Care grants. During the last grant cycle, HUD approved consolidation of three City of Berkeley grants: 1) Tenant-Based Rental Assistance; 2) Supportive Housing Network and 3) Pathways Project. These three grants were combined into one grant, which is now the Supportive Housing Collaborative. The grants serve homeless and disabled individuals and families in Berkeley, and must be renewed on an annual basis. The grants fund rental subsidies to house 277 unhoused people with services from city staff and partnering community agencies. These services fulfill the 25% service match required by HUD. In addition, starting in January of 2020 the COACH grant includes funding for supportive services provided by the Social Services Unit of the City's Aging Services Division. These services are provided to chronically homeless adults served through the COACH grant regardless of their age.

Each of the participants in the program receives case management and other supportive services provided by one or more of the following agencies: Bay Area Community Services, Berkeley Food and Housing Project; City of Berkeley Mental Health Division; City of Berkeley Aging Services Division; Bonita House, Inc.; Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency; East Bay AIDS Center; Lifelong Medical Care; and the Women's Daytime Drop-In Center.

#### BACKGROUND

Since 1995, the City of Berkeley Shelter Plus Care Program has been an important component of the continuum of housing available to unhoused people with disabilities. The Shelter Plus Care Program is funded by HUD and the County of Alameda to provide housing subsidies for people who are homeless with a disability. The program combines a rental subsidy with ongoing supportive services to assist chronically homeless individuals and families to obtain and maintain housing.

The Berkeley Shelter Plus Care Program is a partnership between the Health, Housing & Community Service Department and seven community agencies. The Health, Housing & Community Service Department provides operational and programmatic oversight, and inspects rental units to ensure that each unit meets federal housing quality standards, and then makes monthly rental subsidy payments to property owners. The community agencies along with the Department's Divisions on Aging Services and Mental Health provide ongoing case management and support to participants in the program. The City of Berkeley Shelter Plus Care grants provide 277 units of supportive housing for homeless and disabled people.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The City of Berkeley Shelter Plus Care Program successfully provides stable housing and ongoing services to our most chronically homeless and underserved residents. Authorizing the acceptance of the five Shelter Plus Care renewal grants will assure that 277 homeless and disabled individuals and families in Berkeley continue to benefit from receiving ongoing rental assistance and the supportive services necessary to retain stable housing.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Jose Rios, Community Services Specialist II, HHCS, (510) 981-5407

Attachment:

1: Resolution

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

SHELTER PLUS CARE PROGRAM RENEWAL GRANTS

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the County of Alameda have awarded the City of Berkeley Health, Housing & Community Services Department the following three Shelter Plus Care grants: 1) \$4,124,485 for the Supportive Housing Collaborative for the period June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022; 2) \$2,411,026 in tenant-based rental assistance for the COACH Project for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022; and 3) \$881,046 provided through a contract with Alameda County to provide tenant-based rental assistance to homeless individuals and families for the period of March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the combined total for the three grants is an estimated \$7,416,557 to provide direct rental assistance, and of this amount approximately 7% is available to support the Health, Housing and Community Service Department's grant-related administrative activities.; The two HUD grants will have the revenues deposited and be expensed from the Shelter Plus Care Fund. The grant from Alameda County will have the revenues deposited and be expensed from the Shelter Plus Care County Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Shelter Plus Care grants are an annual renewal of an existing program that provides rental subsidies and ongoing support services for more than 277 homeless and disabled individuals and families in Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, the rental subsidies provided through the City's Shelter Plus Care Program are matched by services provided by the City's Mental Health Division and Aging Services Division and seven community-based agencies that assist formerly homeless, disabled individuals and families to retain stable housing.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is hereby authorized to receive funds and execute any agreements and amendments resulting from the three grants awarded from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the County of Alameda for the City's Shelter Plus Care Program as follows: 1) \$4,124,485 for the Supportive Housing Collaborative, for the period of June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022; 2) \$2,411,026 in tenant-based rental assistance for the COACH Project grant for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022; and 3) \$881,046 provided through a contract with Alameda County to provide tenant-based rental assistance to individuals whom are chronically homeless and disabled. Some assistance may be further extended to individuals' families as a part of the supported household on an individual case by case basis from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2022. A signed copy of said documents, agreements and any amendments will be kept on file in the Office of the City Clerk.