



OFFICE OF AGENCY DIRECTOR
1000 San Leandro Boulevard, Suite 300
San Leandro, CA 94577
TEL (510) 618-3452
FAX (510) 351-1367

January 26, 2021

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94612

SUBJECT: ACCEPT THE PROJECT ROOMKEY AND REHOUSING STRATEGY FUNDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO SUPPORT CONTINUED COVID-19 EMERGENCY NON-CONGREGATE SHELTER OPERATIONS AND REHOUSING ACTIVITIES FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN ALAMEDA COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,520,417 FOR FY 2020-2021; AND AUTHORIZE THE SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY TO SUBMIT CLAIMS FOR REIMBURSEMENT

Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Accept the California Department of Social Services Project Roomkey and Rehousing Strategy funding to support continued COVID-19 emergency non-congregate shelter operations and rehousing activities for people experiencing homelessness in Alameda County for the retroactive period of 12/1/20 – 6/30/21, in the amount of \$3,520,417 with no required County funding match;
- B. Authorize the Social Services Agency Director or designee to submit Project Roomkey expenditure claims to the State for reimbursement; and
- C. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to make the related budget adjustments

DISCUSSION/SUMMARY

Pursuant to the Governor's State of Emergency Proclamation dated March 4, 2020, Executive Order N-25-20, the State of California's "Project Roomkey" approved as FEMA-4482-DR-CA (COVID-19) in response to COVID-19, is directly related to that emergency and necessary for the preservation of public health and safety. On April 3, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom launched "Project Roomkey" in an effort to secure thousands of isolation rooms in hotels and motels for extremely vulnerable individuals experiencing homelessness to help "flatten the curve" and preserve hospital capacity.

On November 16, 2020, Governor Newsom announced \$62 million in one-time State General Fund from the State's Disaster Response Emergency Operations Account to allow Project RoomKey (PRK) operations to continue while transitioning participants to permanent housing and technical assistance. The goal of these funds is to ensure the safety of participants during the ongoing public health emergency and to increase the rate and speed of rehousing placements out of PRK sites.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

January 26, 2021

Page 2 of 2

On December 1, 2020, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) informed the County of Alameda that the Alameda County's request for PRK and Rehousing Strategy funding was approved in the amount of \$3,520,417 for the purposes of implementing and operating a local PRK and Rehousing Strategy. These funds are available to encumber or spend through June 30, 2021 and must be used to support continued PRK operations at Days Hotel in Oakland that will serve approximately 400 people and rehousing activities for an estimated 50 current or former PRK participants.

The Health Care Services Agency (HCSA) and Social Services Agency (SSA) are actively involved in modeling all new and existing homeless programs to reduce racial disparities. HCSA and SSA have jointly participated in a Racial Equity working group and are currently engaged in systemwide governance retreats seeking to develop a system that is centered in reducing the disproportionate numbers of Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color (BIPOC) who become homeless, as well as improving outcomes among BIPOC already experiencing homelessness. Regarding Roomkey specifically, HCSA used demographic data for prioritization into Roomkey programs to prevent disparities and has used data analysis to track housing exits from Roomkey similarly.

FINANCING

Funding for these recommendations (\$3,520,417) comes from CDSS PRK and Rehousing Strategy funding allocated to Alameda County and is not included in the HCSA FY 20-21 Approved Budget. The attached Financial Recommendation would increase appropriation in the amount of \$3,520,417 offset by revenue in the same amount. Approval of these recommendations will have no impact on the net County cost.

VISION 2026 GOALS


Providing continued emergency non-congregate shelter operations and rehousing activities for people experiencing homelessness in Alameda County meets the 10X goal pathways of **Accessible Infrastructure** and **Healthcare for All** in support of our shared vision of a **Thriving and Resilient Population**.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

CB284AE84C50405...

Colleen Chawla, Director
Health Care Services Agency

DocuSigned by:

50CDCED1627C432...

Lori Cox, Director
Social Services Agency

FINANCIAL RECOMMENDATION FORM

#140100-35 Rev 5/21/14

AGENDA DATE: 2/9/2021

BOARD LETTER SUBJECT: ACCEPT THE PROJECT ROOMKEY AND REHOUSING STRATEGY FUNDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES TO SUPPORT CONTINUED COVID-19 EMERGENCY NON-CONGREGATE SHELTER OPERATIONS AND REHOUSING ACTIVITIES FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN ALAMEDA COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,520,417 FOR FY 2020 -2021; AND AUTHORIZE THE SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY TO SUBMIT CLAIMS FOR REIMBURSEMENT

BUDGET YEAR: 2021

FUND: 10000

The use of Designations, as follows:

NAME OF DESIGNATION	ORG	AMOUNT

The increase (decrease) in anticipated revenue, as follows:

Informational

ORG	ACCT	PROG	PROJ/GR	AMOUNT
350100	451310	00000		\$ 3,520,417
			ORG TOTAL	\$3,520,417

Informational

ORG	ACCT	PROG	PROJ/GR	AMOUNT
			ORG TOTAL	\$0

GRAND TOTAL ANTICIPATED REVENUE \$3,520,417

The increase (decrease) in appropriations, as follows:

Informational

ORG	ACCT	PROG	PROJ/GR	AMOUNT
350100	610000	00000		\$3,520,417
			ORG TOTAL	\$3,520,417

Informational

ORG	ACCT	PROG	PROJ/GR	AMOUNT
			ORG TOTAL	\$0

GRAND TOTAL APPROPRIATION \$3,520,417



KIM JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

December 1, 2020

Lori A. Cox, Director
Alameda County
1404 Franklin Street Ste. 300
Oakland, CA 94612

**SUBJECT: PROJECT ROOMKEY AND REHOUSING STRATEGY FUNDING
APPROVAL**

Dear Director Cox:

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is pleased to inform you that your County/Tribe request for Project Roomkey (PRK) and Rehousing Strategy funding has been approved.

On November 16, 2020, Governor Newsom [announced \\$62 million](#) in one-time State General Fund (GF) from the State's Disaster Response Emergency Operations Account to allow PRK operations to continue while transitioning participants to permanent housing and technical assistance. The goal of these funds is to ensure the safety of participants during the ongoing public health emergency and to increase the rate and speed of rehousing placements out of PRK sites.

CDSS is pleased to inform you that Alameda County is hereby provided **\$3,520,417** for the purposes of implementing and operating a local PRK and Rehousing Strategy. **These funds are available to encumber or spend through June 30, 2021** and must be used to support continued PRK operations as described in the [ACWDL dated June 1, 2020](#), and/or rehousing activities for current or former PRK participants as described in [ACWDL dated November 18, 2020](#). By accepting these funds, program operators agree to the funding terms and conditions outlined in the signed Director's Certification; refer to the certification for more information.

Counties and tribes must use the attached PRK and Rehousing Strategy invoice form to complete any of the following: (1) request a reimbursement, (2) request a cash advance, and (3) to report actual expenditures of funds that have been previously advanced. A one-time funding advance of up to 50 percent of the approved funds may be requested for any planned purposes related to the project for which costs have not yet been incurred. Counties and tribes in receipt of a cash advance must report the actual expenditures in connection to the project utilizing the attached invoice form. Payment of the remainder of the funds may be provided as reimbursement for program services once they are rendered.

Invoices shall be submitted to CDSS on a monthly basis, due by the last business day of the month following the month in which the expenses were incurred. For example, any expense incurred in March must be included in the invoice submitted by the last business day of April. An expense is considered incurred once funds are obligated/encumbered via a contract, purchase order, or other legal agreement. Invoices for the purposes of requesting a reimbursement or to reconcile expenditures of advanced funds should include a description of the services and/or items provided. Note: supporting documentation is not required to be submitted with a PRK and Rehousing Strategy invoice. Counties and tribes must still maintain records to document the use of these funds for purposes of audit or review, consistent with the guidance provided in [All County Letter No. 15-26](#). Counties and tribes shall submit one invoice per type of request (reimbursement, cash advance, or advanced funds report).

Any advanced funds that have not been offset by invoiced incurred costs, or which exceed the amount to which an agency becomes entitled, must be returned to CDSS by August 13, 2021. Counties and tribes must include a physical address and telephone number for the designated contact in the county or tribe with whom to coordinate payment. Invoices may be emailed with electronic signatures to the CDSS Housing inbox at housing@dss.ca.gov. Due to the need for CDSS staff to telework, counties or tribes that need to submit hard copies must contact housing@dss.ca.gov or by phone at (916) 651-5155 to arrange for mailing procedures.

For program-related questions, please contact the Housing and Homelessness Branch at (916) 651-5155 or by email at housing@dss.ca.gov. Questions pertaining to reimbursement should be directed to fiscal.systems@dss.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Electronically Signed By:

CORRIN BUCHANAN
Assistant Director for Housing and Homelessness

Cc: Kerry Abbott

Attachment