



ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Chris Bazar
Agency Director

Agenda Item _____ December 5, 2017

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November 30, 2017

Honorable Board of Supervisors
Administration Building
Oakland, California 94612

Dear Board Members:

SUBJECT: DESIGNATE UP TO \$1.9 MILLION IN ONE-TIME PRIOR YEAR FUNDS AS THE ALAMEDA COUNTY HOMELESSNESS IMMEDIATE IMPACT FUND AND APPROVE THE ALLOCATION GUIDELINES AND FUNDING CRITERIA

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Auditor-Controller to designate up to \$1.9 million in one-time prior year funds as the Alameda County Homelessness Immediate Impact Fund with the following allocation guidelines:

- A. Allocate \$1 million to be distributed through a city partnership application process for responses to unsheltered homelessness;
- B. Allocate up to \$500,000 for responses to homelessness in the Unincorporated County and unsheltered homeless people residing on County properties; and,
- C. Allocate up to \$400,000 as a reserve to respond to unforeseen homeless response needs in the coming months.

DISCUSSION/SUMMARY:

Alameda County is experiencing a housing emergency and one consequence of that is increasing numbers of unsheltered residents and encampments. Your Board directed staff to develop an emergency program for the potential use of approximately \$1.9 Million in one-time prior year funding to be used in partnership with city governments (and in the unincorporated area) for immediate impact projects that will provide some relief to unsheltered residents and their sheltered neighbors.

Lead staff from the Community Development Agency/Housing and Community Development (HCD), Social Services Agency (SSA), and Health Care Services Agency (HCSA), and the County Administrator's Office developed this joint proposal for the potential use of a one-time funding allocation and a recommended process. A PowerPoint presentation on the proposal was presented at a Special Meeting on November 21, 2017 and your Board provided comments and direction on the draft proposal.

Three allocations are proposed:

1. **Up to \$1 million to partner with cities to respond to needs of unsheltered homeless people in encampments:** The program description, process and schedule is in Attachment A. The program is designed to be flexible, to achieve maximum impact and to encourage collaboration, sustainable investments, and measurable outcomes. One substantive made was to add a third 'middle' funding level: As described in Attachment A, cities may request up to \$100,000 for each area with the highest concentration of unsheltered homelessness, up to \$50,000 for each area with the second highest concentration of unsheltered homelessness, and up to \$25,000 if no high concentration areas exist in the city.
2. **Up to \$500,000 for responses to homelessness in the Unincorporated County and unsheltered homeless people residing on County properties:** Specific proposals and budgets to respond to unsheltered people sleeping on County properties and to respond to homeless needs in the Unincorporated County will be developed by staff and brought to your Board as soon as possible, no later than March 1, 2018.
 - a. HCD will convene County staff and other needed partners to develop proposals for the use of funds in the unincorporated county. The team will include HCD, HCSA, SSA, Public Works Agency, General Services Agency, Sheriff's Department, and others. Possible programs may include, but are not limited to expanded outreach and engagement, location of hygiene stations, expansions in shelter beds and other interim housing, targeted rapid rehousing temporary rental assistance and other responses.
 - b. HCD will convene County staff to assess the extent of unsheltered people sleeping on County properties and develop proposals for policies, procedures, and uses of funds to respond. The team will include HCD, HCSA, General Services Agency, Sheriff's Department, and others. Policies and protocols modeled after the response developed for the County buildings at 1221 Oak St. and 400 and 401 Broadway in Oakland will be developed and brought to your Board consideration, along with possible programs and budgets for uses of funds.
3. **Up to \$400,000 as a reserve to respond to unforeseen homeless response needs in the coming months:** Depending on the level of responses and needs identified in the two programs above, this allocation may be recommended to be used to fill needs in those

programs in order to maximize the response to needs as quickly as possible. Any remaining funds, up to \$400,000 maximum, would be placed into a reserve to respond to unforeseen homeless needs to target expansions or new efforts of existing programs to fill gaps in needed services. For example, winter warming centers are funded based on a projected maximum number of bad weather nights during the winter months. If there are more cold, wet nights or the cold/wet season extends past those months, additional funds would be needed to keep the warming centers open. Another example would be responding to emergency closures of facilities or encampments due to fire or building issues that necessitate relocation. These funds are not intended to backfill losses of funding to community-based organizations from other funding sources.

FINANCING:

The designation of up to \$1.9 million of one-time prior year funds for the proposed Alameda County Homelessness Immediate Impact Fund will not result in any additional net county costs this fiscal year or in future years. Funds will be appropriated from the designation as grants are approved based on Board approved criteria and staff recommendations.

Very truly yours,



Chris Bazar, Director
Community Development Agency

cc: Susan S. Muranishi, County Administrator
Donna R. Ziegler, County Counsel
Steve Manning, Auditor-Controller
Lori Cox, SSA Director
Rebecca Gebhart, Interim HCSA Director
Melanie Atendido, County Administrator's Office
Heather M. Littlejohn, Office of the County Counsel
U.B. Singh, CDA Finance Director

Alameda County Unsheltered Homeless Immediate Impact Grants

December 5, 2017

Background: Alameda County is experiencing a housing emergency and one consequence of that is increasing numbers of unsheltered residents and encampments. The Board of Supervisors directed staff to develop an emergency program for the use of up to \$1 Million in one-time funding to be used in partnership with city governments (and in the unincorporated area) for immediate impact projects that will provide some relief to unsheltered residents and their sheltered neighbors.

The program was jointly developed by the County's Community Development Agency's Housing and Community Development Department (HCD), Social Services Agency (SSA), and Health Care Services Agency (HCSA) with support from the County Administrator's office; it will be administered by HCD with support from SSA and HCSA.

PROGRAM:

Up to \$1 Million is available to be distributed through the city partnership process described below. The program is designed to be flexible, to achieve maximum impact and to encourage collaboration, sustainable investments, and measurable outcomes.

- A. **Only cities may apply.**
- B. **Match at 1:1 is required.** The source of the match cannot be other County funds.
- C. The proposed project should be **operational within 6 months or sooner.**
 - i. **If for a service**, the funded program should **extend for 12 months minimum** (or if a winter-only service for at least two winters) and 36 months maximum.
 - ii. **If for capital one-time expenses**, they must be used to invest in **items that will be utilized for at least 36 months** (or if winter-only for at least 3 winters).
- D. **The proposed project must include a partnership with the lead Housing Resource Center operator in the region applying for funding.** The proposal for the project shall indicate how the Housing Resource Center will participate in supporting the implementation of the project.
- E. The project should be one that has a **direct impact on encampments or locations with high densities of unsheltered homeless people** and should identify how homeless people's lives will be better off as a result of the project/funding.
- F. The impact of the project should be **measurable and use a results-based accountability (RBA) framework.**
- G. **Fundable projects may include either or both small capital projects and/or services, for example:**
 - 1. Purchase or lease of buses, vans, etc.
 - 2. Hygiene stations or mobile showers
 - 3. Increases in outreach and engagement
 - 4. Programs to employ unsheltered people

5. Increases to or establishment of additional emergency winter shelters/warming centers and/or hot weather cooling centers
6. Additional year-round shelter beds (the beds themselves or services/other costs to support provision of additional beds at an existing shelter)
7. Small remodels or purchase of furnishings to increase capacity in shelters and transitional housing and/or reduce barriers to entry
8. Construction and services for outdoor navigation centers or similar sanctioned camping or parking areas
9. Support to organizations to allow people living in cars to have secure places to park with showers and bathrooms
10. Projects to reduce barriers to shelter entry (e.g. rental of storage space, arrangements for pets)

H. Distribution of Funds:

1. Funding will be prioritized according to the number of census tracts with the highest concentrations of unsheltered homeless people and/or the total number of unsheltered persons in the city (the number of unsheltered homeless by census tract is used as a proxy for number and size of encampments).
 2. Cities with census tracts showing the highest 2 tiers of concentrations of unsheltered people will have priority for funding (see table below and Attachment 2).
 3. Funds need not be spent within high concentration tracts.
- I. Request Maximums:** Cities may request up to \$100,000 for each area with the highest concentration of unsheltered homelessness, up to \$50,000 for each area with the second highest concentration of unsheltered homelessness, and up to \$25,000 if no high concentration areas exist in the city. The County's goal is to focus on areas of high concentration while also partnering with cities across the county which are investing resources and working to address the needs of unsheltered residents as much as possible within the limits of available funds.

The table below shows the cities in the county with the census tracts with the highest concentrations of unsheltered homeless people and/or the highest percentages of the unsheltered homeless people in the county, according to the January 2017 homeless Point in Time count. The two cities highlighted in green contain the five census tracts with the highest number of unsheltered people. Exhibit 2 contains a table with data for all cities in the county and the unincorporated county.

Areas of Alameda County with Highest Concentrations of Unsheltered Homeless People by Census Tract

City/Area	Unsheltered Homeless - High Concentration Census Tracts	% of County Unsheltered Homeless
Oakland	4 tracts with >115 unsheltered homeless, 12 additional tracts with >38, and 5 additional tracts with >27	49.24%
Berkeley	1 tract with >115, 4 additional tracts with >38, and 2 additional tracts with >27	17.19%
Hayward *	2 tracts with >38, and 1 additional tract with >27	8.10%
Fremont	2 tracts with >38	7.30%
Livermore*	1 tract with >38, and 2 additional tracts with >27	3.65%
Unincorporated area*	0 tracts with >38. 4 tracts with >27	5.02%

*Hayward and Livermore high concentration census tracts include portions of unincorporated county.

J. Application Process and Schedule:

1. To apply for funds, cities should submit separate applications (shown in Exhibit 1) for each distinct program, up to the maximum request amount available to the city.
2. HCD will begin taking applications immediately after the Board of Supervisors' approval of the program and will accept applications until all funds are committed. In order to allocate funds as quickly as possible, while also being able to assess overall interest in the program, there will be a deadline for the initial application round. The schedule is expected to be as follows:
 - i. December 6 – 20, 2017: Accept proposals
 - ii. December 21, 2017 – January 9, 2018: Review proposals and develop contracts
 - iii. January 23, 2018: First contracts to Board of Supervisors (not all contracts may be ready by this Board meeting)
 - iv. January 24 and on-going: Continue to accept proposals for remaining funds, if any.

Exhibit 1

**ALAMEDA COUNTY
HOMELESS ENCAMPMENTS
APPLICATION FOR IMMEDIATE IMPACT FUNDING**

AREA: (Census Tract, street or cross streets)	
APPLICANT CITY:	
CONTACT INFORMATION: (Contact name, Address, Phone, Email)	

AMOUNT OF REQUEST AND MATCHING FUNDS:	Please list the amount requested and describe the source and amount of matching funds:
DESCRIPTION:	Please provide a brief description of the project and why funds are needed (attach budget and budget narrative):
IMPACT:	Briefly describe how impact will be measured:

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:		DATE:

Exhibit 2

Distribution and Concentration of Unsheltered Homeless Population in Alameda County by City

Geography	Total Unsheltered Homeless Population	Unsheltered Homeless Population as % of County Unsheltered Homeless Population	Number of Level 5 Census Tracts (115-176 Unsheltered Homeless Living in Tract)	Number of Level 4 Census Tracts (38-108 Unsheltered Homeless Living in Tract)	Number of Level 3 Census Tracts (27-36 Unsheltered Homeless Living in Tract)
Alameda County Total	3863		5	22	15
Alameda City	110	2.85%	0	1	0
Albany	66	1.71%	0	0	1
Berkeley	664	17.19%	1	4	2
Dublin	21	0.54%	0	0	0
Emeryville	29	0.75%	0	0	0
Fremont	282	7.30%	0	2	0
Hayward	313	8.10%	0	2	1
Livermore	141	3.65%	0	1	2
Newark	28	0.72%	0	0	0
Oakland	1902	49.24%	4	12	5
Piedmont	0	0.00%	0	0	0
Pleasanton	18	0.47%	0	0	0
San Leandro	55	1.42%	0	0	0
Union City	40	1.04%	0	0	0
Unincorporated County	194	5.02%	0	0	4

Source: Alameda County Housing and Community Development Department, 2017 Countywide Point In Time (PIT) Homeless Count