



CITY OF POMONA

COUNCIL REPORT

December 2, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Linda Lowry, City Manager

Submitted By: Benita De Frank, Neighborhood Services Director

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT \$607,500 IN GRANT FUNDS FOR OPERATION OF A BRIDGE HOUSING PROGRAM AT THE HOPE FOR HOME SERVICE CENTER AND AMENDMENT OF AGREEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA LOS ANGELES BY AWARDED \$558,601 TO OPERATE THE BRIDGE HOUSING PROGRAM AS THE HOPE FOR HOME SERVICES CENTER SITE OPERATOR

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council take the following actions:

1) Adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-187, AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF \$353,230 IN COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES MEASURE H SPECIAL FUNDS AND \$254,270 IN STATE HOMELESS EMERGENCY AID PROGRAM (HEAP) FUNDS FOR OPERATION OF A BRIDGE HOUSING PROGRAM AT THE HOPE FOR HOME SERVICES CENTER, AMENDING THE FY 2019-20 OPERATING BUDGET BY INCREASING REVENUE ESTIMATES AND APPROPRIATING \$607,500 IN GRANT FUNDS, AND AMENDING THE AGREEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA LOS ANGELES BY AWARDED \$558,601 TO OPERATE THE BRIDGE HOUSING PROGRAM AS THE HOPE FOR HOME SERVICES CENTER SITE OPERATOR

2) Authorize the City Manager to execute all agreements and any other documentation requested for acceptance of the award, distribution of the funding and operation of the Hope for Home Bridge Housing Program, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) has informed the City of Pomona that it has been awarded \$607,500 in Measure H and State Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funds, for the operation of a Bridge Housing Program for homeless adults. The intent of this funding is to provide financial resources for direct operations and administrative costs associated with providing 50 Bridge Housing Program beds at the Hope for Home Services Center. Staff is requesting City Council to accept this award of funding, increase revenue estimates and appropriate \$607,500 of funding into the FY 2019-20 operating budget, and to amend the Volunteer of America Los Angeles agreement, as the Hope for Home Services Center Site Operator, to operate the Bridge Housing Program for an amount not to exceed \$558,601.

FISCAL IMPACT: This action will amend the FY 2019-20 Operating Budget (Attachment No. 1) by increasing revenue estimates and appropriating \$310,843 in County Measure H funds to 139-1791-XXXXXX-58709 for program operation and \$42,387 to 139-1702-XXXXXX-58709 for administrative costs. It also amends the FY 2019-20 Operating Budget by increasing revenue estimates and appropriating \$223,758 in State HEAP funds to 215-1791-XXXXXX-58709 for program operations and \$30,512 to 215-1702-XXXXXX-58709 for administrative costs.

PREVIOUS RELATED ACTION: On January 7, 2017 the City Council adopted “A Way Home: Community Solutions for Pomona’s Homeless” which included Goal A – *Reduce the Number of Unsheltered Homeless Person in Pomona*. On July 17, 2017, City Council approved an award of contract to Volunteer of America Los Angeles (VOALA) as the selected Hope for Home Services Center Site Operator for an initial 5-year period, identifying them as a sole source recipient of future funds identified to operate Hope for Home and its programs.

DISCUSSION:

Earlier this year, the City of Pomona responded to LAHSA’s Request for Proposals (RFP), seeking funds to establish and operate a Bridge Housing Program to provide needed interim housing services to homeless adults. According to LAHSA’s RFP, Bridge Housing is a reserved, twenty-four (24) hour emergency housing program targeted for eligible persons experiencing homelessness that have been prioritized through CES for safe and supportive housing resources. The intention of this emergency housing is to provide participants with some stability, so that they can more easily maintain contact with housing navigation and/or case management services and facilitate safe and supportive housing placement.

The City recently received word from LAHSA that our application for funding was approved by their Board of Commissioners and that the City was awarded \$607,500, with a combination of Los Angeles County Measure H funding and State Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funds, to operate a 50-bed Bridge Housing Program through June 30, 2020, with renewal funding through June 30, 2022 anticipated.

In an effort to operate the Bridge Housing Program expeditiously, staff is recommending that \$558,601 of the funding received be passed-through to VOALA, as the identified Hope for Home Site Operator. The award consists of \$534,601 for program operation, including: staffing, food, facility costs, and security and also provides \$24,000 for VOALA’s administrative costs. The City will retain \$48,899 for administrative costs for oversight and monitoring of the grant.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES & GOALS: This action supports City Council Goal K – to reduce the unsheltered homeless population by 10% annually and take actions to mitigate the impacts of homelessness on the community.

Prepare by:
Benita DeFrank
Neighborhood Services Director