



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER**

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Community Services
Department No.: 057
For Agenda Of: June 27, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department George Chapjian, Community Services Director 805-568-2467
Director(s)
Contact Info: Kimberlee Albers, Programs Manager 805-695-6333

SUBJECT: Authorization to Receive American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions: That the Board of Supervisors:

- A) Authorize the Community Services Department (CSD) Director, or designee, to execute two (2) Memoranda of Understanding agreements, one (1) with the City of Carpinteria; and one (1) with the City of Goleta, to receive a total of \$135,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to provide homelessness support services for recipients of Emergency Housing Vouchers.
- B) Determine that the above recommended actions do not constitute a project subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5), as the actions are organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption.

Summary Text:

The Cities of Goleta and Carpinteria have authorized their respective City Managers to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Santa Barbara County. Each MOU provides to County CSD a portion of that city’s ARPA funding to be administered by CSD Housing and Community Development Division (HCD) under agreement with a Subrecipient for Supportive Services to Emergency Housing Voucher recipients. HCD and the Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care (CoC) funded two years of

Supportive Services and there is a need to cover the cost of the third year. Three years of supportive services are needed to ensure households that transition out of homelessness remain housed and were needed to assure private landlords of on-going support. Housing retention ensures further progress toward the goals of the County's Community Action Plan to Address Homelessness.

Each City's allocation – \$75,000 from Goleta; \$60,000 from Carpinteria – represents their contribution to projected supportive services costs based on vouchers used by residents of their cities in the Emergency Housing Voucher program. Allocations are based on each local government's percentage share of eligible persons on the Coordinated Entry System (CES) list.

The use of ARPA funds is governed by policies set by the U.S. Department of Treasury and the County of Santa Barbara, and activities and expenditures must fall under Category 3 (Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities) and Sub-Category 3.11 (Housing Support: Services for Unhoused Persons) as outlined in the U.S. Department of Treasury Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Compliance and Reporting Guidance, documented by regular reports and invoices.

Background:

At the Elected Leaders Forum to Address Homelessness on July 9, 2021, Santa Barbara County Community Services presented the need for the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care and local cities to contribute to the Emergency Housing Voucher Program.

On September 9, 2021, Santa Barbara County staff presented to Goleta's Homelessness Issues Standing Committee requesting consideration of funding the County's proposal with \$75,000 from ARPA funds. On February 15, 2022 the City of Goleta authorized the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Santa Barbara County for ARPA allocation funding of Emergency Housing Vouchers Supportive Services to be provided by the HCD Subrecipient for FY 22/23 in an amount not-to-exceed \$75,000 in a form approved by the City Attorney.

On October 11, 2021, Santa Barbara County staff presented to Carpinteria's City Council, requesting consideration of funding the County's proposal with \$60,000 from ARPA funds, and subsequently the City of Carpinteria authorized the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Santa Barbara County for funding of Emergency Housing Vouchers Supportive Services for FY 22/23 in an amount not-to-exceed \$60,000 in a form approved by the City Attorney.

The Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program assists individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness, at risk of experiencing homelessness, fleeing or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, or were recently homeless and for whom providing rental assistance will prevent the family's homelessness or having high risk of housing instability. The EHV program is designed to increase permanent supportive housing using a scattered site model. Scattered site means voucher holders largely lease up with private market landlords.

The Subrecipient supports persons that have received EHV's after being matched through the Coordinated Entry System (CES). Services include, but are not limited to:

- Housing placement services;
- Mental health services;

- Substance use services;
- Case management;
- Housing retention skills;
- Peer support activities;
- Benefits counseling and advocacy; and
- Access to physical health care, including routine and preventive health and dental care, medication management, and wellness services.

Performance Measures

These funds augment EHV Support Services under an existing agreement with Subrecipient, Good Samaritan Shelter (GSS). GSS has served 264 households in the EHV program as of March 31, 2023 with 91% of participants retaining permanent housing at one year. Subrecipient will meet the following performance measures during the term of the Agreement:

Metric	Goal
Percent of participants who retain permanent housing for one year	80%
Percent of adult participants enrolled in education services	20%
Percent of adult participants participating in mental health services	35%
Percent of adult participants that received outpatient health services	65%
Percent of adult participants received substance use treatment services	45%
Percent of adult participants gaining or increasing existing earned income at annual assessment	15%
Percent of adult participants who will obtain cash/non-cash benefits at annual assessment	70%
Percent of adult participants gained employment	15%

Contract Renewals and Performance Outcomes:

N/A

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No. The Department will return to the Board with a budget revision in early FY 23-24.

Fiscal Analysis:

General Fund				
State				
Federal				\$135,000
Fees				
Other:				
Total	\$	-	\$	-
				\$ 135,000.00

Key Contract Risks: The County assumes responsibility for the administration of its ARPA fund allocations in accordance with all federal and state requirements governing their use. In addition, County would be held liable if it or any provider to which it grants funds is found to be non-compliant with applicable requirements. The subrecipient under current agreement has successfully operated State and/or federally-funded projects in the past which have had similar regulatory and administrative requirements.

The County agrees to provide detailed accounting of ARPA fund expenditures as requested by each City in accordance with their ARPA allocation reporting requirements.

Staffing Impacts:

N/A

Special Instructions: Please email an electronic copy of the Minute Order to Kimberlee Albers at kalbers@countyofsb.org

Attachments:

- A. Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Goleta
- B. Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Carpinteria

Authored by:

Matthew Rector, Homelessness Assistance Program Specialist II, Community Services Department,
Housing and Community Development Division