



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: October 5, 2021
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority, 4/5ths for
BRR-0007938

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department George Chapjian, Community Services Director (805) 568-2467
Director:
Contact Info: Dinah Lockhart, Deputy Director HCD Administration Division (805)
568-3523
SUBJECT: **Project Roomkey COVID-19 Homeless Task Force Response – Execution of Professional Services Contracts with Kingdom Causes Inc., dba City Net (City Net) for Roomkey, Rehousing and Encampment Outreach Services, and Receipt of California DSS Roomkey Housing Placement Funding**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Risk Management Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Approve and ratify the Director of Emergency Services, or designee, and the Joint Decision Authority's execution of the Subrecipient Agreement with Kingdom Causes Inc., dba City Net for Roomkey Rehousing placement services (Attachment A) effective August 15, 2021 through June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$772,384;
- b. Delegate to the Director of the Community Services Department, or designee, the authority to approve changes to the budget, extend the term of the award time of performance up to a maximum of 12 months, and approve of administrative changes to the Agreement as necessary to conform with applicable laws, regulations, policies, etc., without changing the amount of the agreement, all in accordance with Section VI.E. of the Subrecipient Agreement, subject to the Board's ability to rescind this delegated authority at any time; and
- c. Approve and ratify the Director of the Department of Social Services' acceptance State Project Roomkey funding from the California Department of Social Services in an amount of \$772,384 (Roomkey Grant) (Attachment B); and

- d. Approve and ratify the Director of Emergency Services, or designee, to execute the no-cost First Amendment to the Emergency Shelter Operations Service Agreement with Kingdom Causes Inc., dba City Net for South County non-congregate shelter support services (Attachment C) extending the term date to December 31, 2021; and
- e. Approve the Attached Budget Revision Request (BJE No 0007938) necessary to adjust appropriations for the receipt of the Roomkey Grant. (Attachment D) (4/5th Vote Required)
- f. Determine that the recommended actions are not the acceptance and approval of a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), finding that the project is a creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment; and that the actions are exempt from CEQA pursuant to Guidelines Section 15269(c) as they consist of specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda in order to approve and ratify Joint Decision Authority's (JDA) and Director of Emergency Services Subrecipient Agreement between County of Santa Barbara and Kingdom Causes Inc., dba City Net for Roomkey Rehousing. This item also ratifies the allocation of State Roomkey Grant in the amount of \$772,384 to be used to fund the rehousing contract as part of County's on-going role in addressing homelessness. Furthermore, this item amends the existing Emergency Shelter Operations Service Agreement between County of Santa Barbara and Kingdom Causes Inc., dba City Net for South County Non-Congregate Shelter Support, to allow for adequate time to successfully place persons at Roomkey into permanent supportive housing. Lastly, this item seeks the Board's approval of Budget Revision Request No. 0007938 necessary to adjust appropriations for the Roomkey Grant.

On March 12, 2020, the Board of Supervisors declared a local emergency proclamation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Part of the Office of Emergency Management's response was to create the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Homeless Task Force Response Team to mitigate spread of COVID through vulnerable homeless populations. On April 20, 2020, the EOC Homeless Task Force Response Team opened a Non-Congregate Shelter (Project Roomkey) in the Southern portion of Santa Barbara County. The County of Santa Barbara has served over 190 guests. On August 18th, 2021, County posted a Request for Letter of Interest and Statement of Qualifications to find a partner to assist in housing navigation and placement for Project Roomkey occupants. Kingdom Causes Inc., dba City Net (City Net) was the only respondent to the request. CityNet has experience operating and supporting non-congregate shelter sites throughout the state. They also have experience in supportive housing navigation, placement and stabilization.

Background:

As the COVID-19 Emergency spread through Santa Barbara, there was a need to protect vulnerable unsheltered individuals and respond to the guidance provided by the State of California. The EOC Homeless Task Force Response Team was created with the following objectives.

EOC Homeless Task Force Response Team's Objectives;

1. Prevent and mitigate COVID-19 impacts for persons who remain unsheltered through support centers and outreach re-establishing access to showers, device charging, food and hygiene supplies.
2. Establish non-congregate sheltering for persons at highest risk of COVID-19 complications.
3. Sustain shelter capacity for persons not experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
4. Enhance homelessness prevention and housing activities through increased funding for rental assistance and supportive services.

Project Roomkey – On March 18, 2020, the Governor of California announced Project Roomkey, the goal of this effort is to provide non-congregated shelter options for people experiencing homelessness, to protect human life, and minimize strain on health care system capacity. This initiative targeted the most vulnerable unsheltered individuals, those over 65 years of age, with underlying medical conditions (respiratory, compromised immunities, chronic disease), those under 65 with underlying medical conditions, and those over the age of 65 with no underlying medical conditions. In addition to non-congregated sheltering, Project Roomkey provides “wrap around” services, such as case management, professional medical and mental health care, food, security, and cleaning, to ensure a safe and secure location. Since April 20, 2020, 196 individuals have been served at Project Roomkey Sites and 88 have transitioned to permanent housing. Individuals not transitioned to permanent housing are either still sheltered at the site or have voluntarily or involuntarily exited over the past year of operations.

Emergency Shelter Operations of Non-Congregate Shelter (NCS) Site – City Net has been operating the non-congregate shelter, Roomkey, site since April 28, 2021. The amendment (Attachment C) extends the term of the agreement through December 31, 2021 with no change to the maximum contract amount. In alignment with the second objective of the EOC Homeless Task Force Response Team above, the County of Santa Barbara opened a Non-Congregate Shelter to house vulnerable homeless individuals without the ability to isolate, in a single room occupancy (SRO) setting. City Net is a non-profit with extensive experience providing services and operating Non-Congregate Shelter in the Santa Barbara area and other parts of Southern California.

Re-Housing Contract with City Net for persons currently at Roomkey Sites – The contract with City Net for rehousing services provides a way for persons who have entered hotels as non-congregate shelter to not return to homelessness. For persons currently at a Roomkey site, this is critical, and will be addressed through three core components. One, Housing Identification, to find housing for individuals experiencing homelessness quickly. Two, Rental and Move-In Assistance, to assist with the costs associated with getting into housing. Thirdly, Case Management, to help stabilize households once housed by connecting persons to services and support, as needed through a Housing First, person centered approach.

Fiscal Analysis:

Eligible Project Roomkey (Non-Congregate Sheltering) costs are 100% FEMA reimbursable through December 31, 2021, under Category B - Emergency Protective Measures, per the FEMA Advisory dated August 17, 2021 (Attachment E), which states “This is an extension of the President’s order issued earlier this year for FEMA to fully reimburse governments at a 100% federal cost share through Sept. 30, 2021 for emergency response costs associated with COVID-19”.

The California Department of Social Services Roomkey Grant is being utilized to fund the Rehousing Services contract with City Net, an eligible activity for the funding. It is estimated that this funding, when leveraged with other housing resources, will transition at least 40 persons into permanent housing from Project Roomkey.

Key Contract Risks:

California Department of Social Services reserves the right to reallocate Project Roomkey and Rehousing Strategy funds should it determine it is appropriate or necessary to maximize program impact throughout the state (Project Roomkey and Rehousing Strategy Funding Terms and Conditions, section 6.)

Attachments:

Attachment A: Subrecipient Agreement between County of Santa Barbara and Kingdom Causes Inc., dba City Net for Roomkey Rehousing

Attachment B: Project Roomkey Funding Approval Letter

Attachment C: First Amendment to Emergency Shelter Operations Service Agreement between County of Santa Barbara and Kingdom Causes Inc., dba City Net for South County Non-Congregate Shelter Support

Attachment D: Budget Revision Request No 0007938

Attachment E: FEMA Advisory Letter Dated August 17, 2021

Special Instructions:

Not applicable