

# 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

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence** 

Department No.: 057

For Agenda Of: August 29, 2023
Placement: Administrative

**Estimated Time:** 

 $\text{Continued Item:} \qquad No$ 

If Yes, date from:

Vote Required: Majority

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department George Chapjian, Community Services Director (805-568-2467)

Director(s)

Contact Info: Kimberlee Albers, Homeless Programs Manager (805-560-1090)

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Subrecipient Agreements with Good Samaritan Shelter, using

California Encampment Resolution Funding and American Rescue Plan Act State and Local Recovery Funds for Outreach, Engagement & Permanent

**Housing Flexible Funds** 

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management

As to form: Yes

#### **Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute a Subrecipient Agreement with Good Samaritan Shelter, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation, using California Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) funds for a total contract maximum amount not to exceed \$3,016,687.50, for street outreach to people residing in encampments, specifically in dangerous and heavily impacted waterways near State rights-of-way (ROW) for a term beginning August 30, 2023, and ending December 31, 2025, subject to annual appropriations and budget approval (ERF Subrecipient Agreement);
- b) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute a Subrecipient Agreement with Good Samaritan Shelter using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for COVID-19 Recovery in Housing and Homelessness funds for a total contract maximum amount not to exceed \$50,000, for personal property storage for people moving from encampments, specifically in dangerous and heavily impacted waterways near State ROW for a term beginning August 30, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024, subject to annual appropriations and budget approval (ARPA Subrecipient Agreement);

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c) Determine that the recommended actions are not the 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.

#### **Summary Text:**

Staff recommends the approval of the ERF Subrecipient Agreement and the ARPA Subrecipient Agreement to provide funding to Good Samaritan Shelter to assist in resolving encampments for the following projects.

- 1. ERF Subrecipient Agreement: \$3,016,687.50 (August 30, 2023 December 31, 2025) for Street Outreach Personnel, System/Data Support Personnel, Outreach & Engagement Flexible Funds, Permanent Housing Flexible Funds, Project Implementation, and Administrative Costs (ATTACHMENT A)
- 2. ARPA Subrecipient Agreement: \$50,000 (August 30, 2023 June 30, 2024) for personal property storage (ATTACHMENT B)

Community Services Department (CSD) staff is working with other County departments and stakeholders to develop increased capacity at existing shelters and new non-congregate interim housing and will return to the Board as these projects are ready to proceed.

#### **Background:**

The Encampment Resolution Strategy and Encampment Response Protocol approved by the Board of Supervisors on August 31, 2021 is a 3-year effort (2021-2024) with the goal of resolving 45 encampments of varying size and impact. The approved Encampment Resolution Strategy relies on an effective system of care that can ultimately provide shelter, housing, and services to meet the needs of persons experiencing homelessness. As a first step, in 2021, CSD appointed an Encampment Response Coordinator. On January 11, 2022, Qwik Response was contracted to provide the sanitation services for Encampment Response. On June 22, 2022, Good Samaritan Shelter was contracted to provide countywide outreach and engagement to unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness, including encampments.

On October 19, 2021, the Board of Supervisors approved ARPA funding for Housing and Homelessness and allocated specific amounts to projects by tranches during the FY 2022-23 budget process. This included funding for implementation of the County's Encampment Resolution Strategy, with funds dedicated to personal property storage for persons moving from encampments.

In October 2021, the State made competitive funding available to resolve encampments. The County of Santa Barbara collaborated with local jurisdictions and other agencies to develop a coordinated approach to addressing a regional need: resolving encampments along transit corridors (U.S. Hwy 101 and CA Hwy 1) where railroad tracks parallel and intersect highways. The efforts will target populations in danger of vehicle/train right-of-way strikes and fires. The County was awarded \$2,520,000 to resolve encampment sites and transition persons to safer sheltered locations. Kingdom Causes, Inc., dba CityNet, was

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contracted for street outreach to encampments along the transit corridors, Channel Islands Restoration was contracted for Environmental Rehabilitation, and Interim Housing was funded at PATH's Santa Barbara shelter and the County's proposed La Posada project.

In December 2022, the State again made \$300 million of competitive funding available to resolve encampments. For this funding cycle the County collaborated with local jurisdictions (County of San Luis Obispo and cities of Carpinteria, Santa Barbara, Goleta, Solvang, Lompoc, and Santa Maria) and other agencies (CalTrans) to develop a coordinated approach to addressing a regional need: resolve the experience of unsheltered homelessness for people residing in encampments, specifically in dangerous and heavily impacted waterways near State ROW. Following Board approval authorizing submission of an Encampment Resolution Funding Application on January 24, 2023, the County was awarded \$6 million to resolve encampment sites through pathways to permanent housing, \$2.5 million for interim housing, \$500,000 for flexible engagement and permanent housing fund, and \$360,000 for administration and system support which are the subject of this Board Letter.

The recommended utilization of this funding will serve approximately 250 persons and resolve currently inhabited encampments (approximately 100 persons moving to interim housing/shelter, and approximately 100 persons moving to permanent housing), linking persons to services to meet their unique needs, such as: Street Outreach case managers and housing navigators, Mental Health practitioners, certified Substance Use Disorder specialists, medical coordinators, housing locator/landlord liaisons, and community supports. Funding will support specialized SO teams to provide in-field case management to encourage people to accept available and planned Interim Housing and Permanent Housing. Teams will meet acute needs in the field and will link unsheltered persons to long-term supportive services to ensure their retention in housing placements. Teams will work on a regional basis, partnering with outreach teams and resources available in North County (between SLO and SB counties), Mid-County, or South County.

Funding components included in today's recommended actions are outlined in Table 1, below. CSD Staff continues to develop other funded components and will return to the Board as they are ready to proceed Existing, planned, and potential projects (e.g., mapping software, interim housing sites, and administrative capacity) funded by County and other sources will be leveraged to support the needs outlined in County's application for ERF funds awarded by the State.

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Table 1. Funding recommendations for Encampment Resolution in dangerous and heavily impacted waterways near State ROW.

CA Encampment Resolution Fund - Round 2 (ERF-2)   August 30, 2023-December 31, 2025* *50% (\$1,508,343.75) must be expended by June 30, 2024			
Eligible Activity	Amount Available		
Street Outreach Personnel	\$2,379,375		
System/Data Support Personnel (HMIS, Mapping Software, Reporting)	\$101,250		
Outreach & Engagement Flexible Funds	\$30,000		
Permanent Housing Flexible Funds	\$220,000		
Project Implementation (phones, transportation, supplies/equipment, office			
space)	\$154,000		
Administrative Costs	\$132,062.50		
Total	\$3,016,687.50		

Federal 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)   August 30, 2023-June 30, 2024		
*100% must be expended by June 30, 2024		
Eligible Activity	Amount Available	
Storage	\$50,000	
Total	\$50,000	

## Expenditure deadlines:

- CA Encampment Resolution Fund Round 2 (ERF-2) | 50% (\$1,508,343.75) must be expended by June 30, 2024; 100% must be expended by December 31, 2025
- Federal 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) | 100% must be expended by June 30, 2024

## **Performance Measure:**

The goals and performance measures summarize persons to be served, as well as the outcomes/performance measures for each project.

### <u>Goals</u>

SUBRECIPIENT will provide the following levels of services during the term of the Agreements: Street Outreach & Permanent Housing Flexible Funds

	Goal
Unduplicated number of homeless persons or persons at imminent or at risk of	250
homelessness to be served	
Number of unsheltered homeless persons entering shelter	100
Number of homeless persons entering permanent housing (placed into units)	100

#### **Performance Measures**

SUBRECIPIENT will meet the following performance measures during the term of the Agreements: Street Outreach & Permanent Housing Flexible Funds

	Goal
% of individuals successfully placed in permanent housing	40%

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% of adult participants gaining new or increasing cash income at project exit	15%	
% of adult participants increasing non-cash benefits at project exit	70%	
% of project participants who move into permanent housing remaining housed	90%	
at 1 year		

## **Contract Renewals and Performance Outcomes:**

N/A

#### **Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

All current year costs for work conducted by the Subrecipient are budgeted within the Community Services Department, Housing and Community Development Division, budget.

## **Fiscal Analysis:**

Funding Sources	Current FY Cost:	Annualized On-going Cost:	 al One-Time roject Cost
General Fund			
State			\$ 3,016,687.50
Federal			\$ 50,000.00
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,066,687.50

ERF State funding is providing a 28-month one-time grant award with an anticipated start date of August 30, 2023 through December 31, 2025. CSD Staff will return to the Board to consider recommendations on any other subrecipient awards for agencies to provide other funded components.

ARPA federal funding is providing a 9-month one-time award for performance starting August 30, 2023 through June 30, 2024. All activities and expenditures must consist of Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities or 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 sub-recipient reports and invoices.

## **Key Contract Risks:**

The County assumes responsibility for the administration of ERF and ARPA funds 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. ERF program guidelines indicate that failure to comply with program requirements may result in the County being required to repay such funds. Good Samaritan Shelter has successfully operated State and/or federally-funded projects in the past which have had similar regulatory and administrative requirements.

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Funds are disbursed under the Subrecipient Agreements on a cost-reimbursement basis. This allows CSD to disburse funds for eligible incurred costs in accordance with the Subrecipient Agreements. The County will only reimburse Subrecipient for costs that are eligible under the Subrecipient Agreements and documented in a manner that is acceptable to the CSD. Staff will assess the performance of the contracts to determine if the services provided are adequate and as outline in the Subrecipient Agreements.

## **Special Instructions:**

Please email an electronic copy of the Minute Order to Kimberlee Albers at <a href="mailto:kalbers@co.santa-barbara.ca.us">kalbers@co.santa-barbara.ca.us</a>

#### **Attachments:**

Attachment A: ERF Subrecipient Agreement with Good Samaritan Shelter for Street Outreach & Permanent Housing Flexible Funds

Attachment B: ARPA Subrecipient Agreement with Good Samaritan Shelter for Storage

### **Authored by:**

Lucille Boss, Housing and Community Development Division (lboss@countyofsb.org)