



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: CEO
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: August 26, 2014
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: 5 minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer (805) 568-3400
Director(s)
Contact Info: Terri Maus-Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer (805) 568-3404
SUBJECT: Continuum of Care Program Implementation Update

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management
As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: Sheriff's Department
As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive and file an update on the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care (CoC);
- b) Approve the following representatives from the County of Santa Barbara to the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County CoC and ratify their authority to represent the County:
 - County Executive Officer Representative (Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO);
 - A Supervisorial District Representative; (Erin Weber, Third District Supervisor's Office); and,
 - Sheriff's Department Representative (Laz Salinas, Chief Deputy).
- c) Determine that the 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 the direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption (Attachment A).

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to provide a written update on the Santa Maria, Santa Barbara County Continuum of Care (COC) and to obtain Board approval of the positions within the County to be formally represented on the COC. On April 1, 2014, the Board of Supervisors received an update on the

implementation of the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program, a federally-funded homelessness assistance program, in Santa Barbara County and approved roles for the County of Santa Barbara in the local CoC. The Central Coast Collaborative on Homelessness (C3H) has taken steps to fulfill the requirements and responsibilities imposed on CoCs by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These requirements and responsibilities include establishing a board to act on behalf of the local CoC and designating legal entities to act as the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead Agency and Collaborative Applicant on behalf of the local CoC.

The recommended actions are intended to apprise the Board of Supervisors of progress made toward implementing the CoC Program and formalize the County's participation in the local CoC.

Background:

Authorized by the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009, the CoC Program is intended to reduce the incidence of homelessness in communities by assisting homeless persons to quickly transition to permanent housing and self-sufficiency. The Interim Rule, the regulatory framework for the CoC Program, requires communities to develop collaborative funding and planning approaches in order to provide a full range of emergency, transitional, and permanent housing and other services to address the various needs of homeless persons. The CoC Program, which awards funds annually through a competitive process, enables communities to shape and implement comprehensive and coordinated approaches to end homelessness.

The Interim Rule requires communities to establish a CoC, or a local planning body responsible for developing and operating a system to prevent and end homelessness in a defined geographic area, in order to be eligible to receive funds under the CoC Program. A CoC is comprised of representatives from relevant organizations such as non-profit homeless service providers, government agencies, public housing agencies, mental health agencies, and hospitals that serve homeless persons or persons at risk of homelessness. A CoC is not required to be a legal entity; however, a CoC must designate legal entities to carry out key responsibilities on its behalf, including the operation of the HMIS and compilation and submission of the annual application for funds.

Role of C3H

C3H, through its Policy Council, took action on March 6, 2014 to serve in a lead role with respect to fulfilling requirements and responsibilities imposed on CoCs by HUD in the Interim Rule on the condition that the County serves as the HMIS Lead Agency and Collaborative Applicant. The Board of Supervisors approved these specific roles for the County on April 1, 2014.

The local CoC is responsible for performing all responsibilities assigned to it in the Interim Rule. These include:

- Establishing a board to act on behalf of the CoC;
- Developing a governance charter for the CoC in consultation with the HMIS Lead Agency and Collaborative Applicant;
- Designing and following a collaborative process for the preparation of the annual consolidated application; and
- Approving the annual consolidated application.

Formalizing the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County CoC

Since April 1, 2014, C3H, in consultation with the County and other partners, has taken steps to develop a structure for the local CoC and to ensure that it complies with HUD's requirements set forth in the interim rule. These requirements include establishing a board to act on behalf of the local CoC and designating the County as the HMIS Lead Agency and Collaborative Applicant.

The Interim Rule requires the local CoC to establish a board that will act on its behalf by August 30, 2014. This board must represent relevant organizations and projects that serve homeless subpopulations, include at least one homeless or formerly homeless person, and be selected in accordance with a written process adopted by the local CoC. From July 10, 2014 to August 4, 2014, C3H staff collected nominations from relevant organizations for seats on the inaugural CoC board. Representatives of the local CoC convened on August 7, 2014 to approve a written selection and voting process and vote for a slate of nominees; additional nominees were added to the slate on August 7, 2014 prior to voting. The inaugural CoC board voted in by the representatives to the local CoC is comprised of 14 members. With the installation of the inaugural CoC board on August 7, 2014, the local CoC satisfied the board establishment requirement of the Interim Rule by the deadline.

Name	Affiliation
Christie Alarcon	City of Lompoc
Erin Weber	County of Santa Barbara
Frank Ricceri	Transitions Mental Health Association
John Fowler	Peoples' Self-Help Housing
John Polanskey	Housing Authority of the County of Santa Barbara
Kathleen Baushke	Transition House
Kristine Schwarz	New Beginnings Counseling Center
Michael Harris	CenCal Health
Rob Fredericks	Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara
Sue Gray	City of Santa Barbara
Sylvia Barnard	Good Samaritan Shelter
Terri Maus-Nisich	County of Santa Barbara
Wayne Mellinger	Homeless/Formely Homeless
Xavier Mack	United States Department of Veterans Affairs

On August 7, 2014, consistent with the approval granted by the Board of Supervisors on April 1, 2014, representatives to the local CoC also designated the County as the HMIS Lead Agency and Collaborative Applicant. The Community Services Department, on behalf of the County, will manage the operations of the county-wide HMIS and perform critical administrative tasks for the local CoC inclusive of preparing the annual consolidated application for funding. A Memorandum of Understanding that sets forth the terms of agreement between the County and the local CoC regarding these key activities will be brought before the Board of Supervisors for consideration at a later date.

Having satisfied the Interim Rule's requirements to establish a board by August 30, 2014 and designate an HMIS Lead Agency and a Collaborative Applicant, the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County CoC will take further action to fully implement the CoC program and satisfy the requirements imposed by the Interim Rule. County staff, on behalf of the County as the newly designated HMIS Lead Agency and Collaborative Applicant, will work with the Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County CoC to develop a governance charter that includes all the procedures and policies needed to comply with CoC program requirements. The governance charter will be adopted by the CoC and presented to the Board of

Supervisors for receipt and filing on a later date. This document will assign certain responsibilities placed on the CoC to the CoC board and to other committees. Most CoC-related activities will be undertaken by the newly-established board and other committees, but the CoC's entire membership will also convene at least twice yearly to conduct business. Recommended action b) is intended to identify the County's representatives to the overall Santa Maria/Santa Barbara County CoC and to ratify their authority to represent the County as members of the CoC and its board and other committees, if elected or appointed this year or in subsequent years.

Special Instructions:

Please email an electronic copy of the Minute Order to A.J. Quinoveva at aquinoveva@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.

Attachments:

Attachment A: CEQA NOE

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Community Services Department

The project or activity identified below is determined to be exempt from further environmental review requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) of 1970, as defined in the State and County Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA.

APN(s): N/A Case No.: N/A

Location: Santa Barbary County

Project Title: Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Implementation Update

Project Description: Update progress made toward implementing the CoC Program, formalize the County's participation in the local CoC.

Exempt Status: (Check one)

- ☐ Ministerial
☐ Statutory
☐ Categorical Exemption
☐ Emergency Project
☐ No Possibility of Significant Effect [§15061(b,3)]
☒ Other

Cite specific CEQA Guideline Section: 15378(b)(5)

Reasons to support exemption findings (attach additional material, if necessary):

This action does not constitute a project under CEQA as the action involves administrative activities of governments which will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Department/Division Representative Jill Van Wie Date August 5, 2014

Note: A copy must be filed with the County Clerk of the Board after project approval and posted by the Clerk of the Board for a period of 30 days.

Copies to: File

Date File of Counter Clerks