

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS KATHRYN BARGER AND
HILDA L. SOLIS

November 12, 2019

Adopting Recommended Framework for City Innovation Funding

Combatting homelessness requires that the County work closely with cities and partners to create a coordinated system of supportive services and housing. A robust Coordinated Entry System is now in place to ensure that the most vulnerable individuals living on the street have ample opportunity to connect to much-needed resources.

While this system works to distribute resources and make critical connections within the regional boundaries of each Service Planning Area, individual communities face challenges in supporting those experiencing homelessness at the local level.

The County and local cities share the same goal: to end homelessness for the most vulnerable in our region and to enhance public safety and health for all. However, the strategies that work to address homelessness from a large, regional perspective are not necessarily the same strategies that work to address homelessness in smaller jurisdictions.

In 2017, interested cities were awarded planning grants to decide how they wanted to contribute to the countywide movement to prevent and combat homelessness. Across the County, 41 cities developed plans, demonstrating a high level of engagement from stakeholders across the region. Following a solicitation process, to support implementation of city homelessness plans, the County awarded \$8.2 million for 34 city proposals covering 31 cities. Proposals either focused on increasing the supply of permanent and interim housing or on enhancing supportive services for those experiencing and/or at-risk of homelessness. While many cities applied for this grant opportunity, the complex nature of the process may have discouraged participation.

Cities have the capacity to develop creative solutions to address their own unique homelessness challenges, but additional flexibility is needed to be able to access Measure H funding for these purposes. To effectively combat the humanitarian crisis of homelessness, the County must bolster partnership with cities who intend to build shelters, build supportive housing, and enhance the delivery of homeless services.

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MOTION

SOLIS _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

KUEHL _____

BARGER _____

HAHN _____

The City of Bellflower (Bellflower) provides a prime example of a city taking a localized approach to combatting homelessness. Bellflower recently signed a settlement agreement with U.S. District Court Judge David Carter to become one of the first cities in the Los Angeles Gateway area to commit to siting a shelter where wraparound services will be provided to local individuals experiencing homelessness. This tailored approach to meeting the local need for interim housing will allow Bellflower to gain public support for the project because it serves the surrounding community directly. Funds from the City Innovation Fund could be used for similar purposes.

On September 10, 2019, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the development of a framework to use \$6 million in Measure H funds routed through Councils of Government (COGs) to enable cities to support activities that align with the approved Homeless Initiative Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness. This additional funding will also complement the implementation of existing city homelessness plans. On October 28, 2019, the Chief Executive Office submitted a proposed framework for the distribution and oversight of this funding.

Thanks to an increase in CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) funding from the State, the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) is able to increase its FY 2019-20 contract with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) for the Coordinated Entry System for Families by \$4.4 million. As a result, \$4.4 million in Measure H funding allocated during Supplemental Changes to LAHSA for rapid rehousing for families (Strategy B3) can be redirected to the Innovation Fund, with no reduction in funding for the Coordinated Entry System for Families.

This Innovation Fund reflects the County's commitment to partner with cities and COGs to pursue local and regional solutions to combat homelessness. With Board approval of the recommended framework and associated funding, the CEO-Homeless Initiative will work with the COGs to expeditiously amend their contracts to incorporate the Innovation Fund.

WE, THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Direct the CEO to implement the Innovation Framework as described in the CEO Board Memo dated October 28, 2019.
- 2) Approve the attached appropriation adjustment transferring \$4.4 million from Measure H Special Tax Fund under Strategy B3 to the Homeless and Housing Program budget unit for Strategy E7.
- 3) Approve the attached appropriation adjustment transferring \$1.6 million from Measure H Special Tax Fund in the Commitment for Homeless Programs for Future Years account to the Homeless and Housing Program budget unit for Strategy E7.
- 4) Authorize the CEO to execute and/or amend COG and/or City contracts to implement the Innovation Framework.

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November 12, 2019

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER:

THE FOLLOWING APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT IS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THIS DEPARTMENT. PLEASE CONFIRM THE ACCOUNTING ENTRIES AND AVAILABLE BALANCES AND FORWARD TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR HER RECOMMENDATION OR ACTION.

**ADJUSTMENT REQUESTED AND REASONS THEREFORE
FY 2019-20
4 - VOTES**

SOURCES

USES

HOMELESS AND HOUSING - MEASURE H SPECIAL TAX FUND
GQ8-3075
COMMITTED FOR HOMELESS PROGRAMS FOR FUTURE YEARS
DECREASE OBLIGATED FUND BALANCE 1,600,000

HOMELESS AND HOUSING - MEASURE H SPECIAL TAX FUND
GQ8-CB-6100-41183
OTHER FINANCING USES
INCREASE APPROPRIATION 6,000,000

HOMELESS AND HOUSING - MEASURE H SPECIAL TAX FUND
GQ8-CB-5500-41183
OTHER CHARGES
DECREASE APPROPRIATION 4,400,000

HOMELESS AND HOUSING PROGRAM
A01-CB-96-9918-26685
OPERATING TRANSFERS IN - MEASURE H
INCREASE REVENUE 6,000,000

HOMELESS AND HOUSING PROGRAM
A01-CB-2000-26685
SERVICES & SUPPLIES
INCREASE APPROPRIATION 6,000,000

SOURCES TOTAL \$ 12,000,000

USES TOTAL \$ 12,000,000

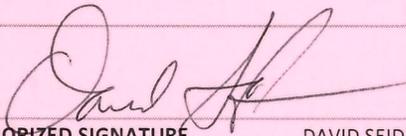
JUSTIFICATION

Reflects the transfer of \$6.0 million from Measure H Special Tax Fund (Other Charges - \$4.4 million and Committed for Homeless Programs for Future Years - \$1.6 million) to the Homeless and Housing Program budget unit for the Innovation Fund for Local Cities Combatting Homelessness.

ADOPTED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

5

NOV 12 2019



AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

DAVID SEIDENFELD, MANAGER, CEO

BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S APPROVAL (AS REQUESTED/REVISED)


CELIA ZAVALA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REFERRED TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR---

ACTION

APPROVED AS REQUESTED

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVED AS REVISED

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

BY 

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

BY 

B.A. NO. 074

DATE Nov. 6, 2019

DATE Nov. 6, 2019