

Funding for the Pasadena Hope Center

On the night of the 2020 Homeless Count, there were a total of 527 people experiencing homelessness in Pasadena. At its peak in 2011, there were approximately 1,216 people experiencing homelessness on any given day in Pasadena. Over the last decade, the City of Pasadena has seen more than a 50% reduction in its population of People Experiencing Homelessness (PEH) following a system-wide implementation of Housing First best practices and a strong focus on targeted strategies to increase the availability of permanent housing. Substantial progress is being made as a result of expanded investments by the City of Pasadena and the County of Los Angeles in prevention, diversion, housing navigation services, street outreach, interim and permanent housing funded, in large part, by Measure H. However, as individuals and families continue to fall newly into homelessness at alarming rates, we must continue to support interventions focused on permanent housing in order to observe meaningful progress towards reducing homelessness locally and Countywide.

The Pasadena Hope Center (Project) is a new construction affordable housing project that will be developed by The Salvation Army and located at 1000 E. Walnut Street, in the City of Pasadena. The site currently contains a two-story office building, which will be demolished and completely removed from the site to allow for the new construction of the Project. The Salvation Army currently owns the building and operates its Pasadena social services program out of 2,664 square feet on the bottom floor.

The proposed Project includes the construction of a modern, four story, approximately 47,200 square-foot building that will provide 65 studio apartments of permanent supportive housing and one two-bedroom manager’s apartment. All residents will be single adults who meet the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s homeless definition. The first floor will again house The Salvation Army’s Pasadena social services offices, serving primarily low-income individuals and families with a large client choice food pantry and supportive service referrals. This floor will be operated by staff of The Salvation Army’s Pasadena Corps Community Center and all operations and physical spaces will be distinctly separate from the housing on the upper floors.

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MOTION

SOLIS _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

KUEHL _____

HAHN _____

BARGER _____

The Salvation Army applied to the Los Angeles County Development Authority's (LACDA) Notice of Funding Availability, Round 25-A and was awarded \$4,480,000 in Affordable Housing Trust Funds for the development of the housing portion of the Project. On September 1, 2020, the Board approved the funding. The Salvation Army is raising private funds for development of the first floor of the Hope Center as a social services center for the Pasadena community, but continues to assemble financing for the Project.

The Fifth Supervisorial District is allocating \$378,000 in Homeless Services Center (HSC) funds to this much-needed effort. Of this amount, The Salvation Army, or its LACDA-approved designee, will receive \$350,000 in project funding, and the LACDA will retain \$28,000 (8% of project funding) for administrative costs.

On September 1, 2020, the Board of Commissioners of the LACDA certified the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemption determination for the Project. The exemption was prepared by the City of Pasadena as lead agency and found that the Project will not cause a significant impact on the environment.

I, THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Acting Chief Executive Officer, or designee, to execute, and if necessary, amend a funding agreement with the LACDA to allow for the transfer of up to \$378,000 in HSC Funds allocated to the Fifth Supervisorial District for the Project.

I, FURTHER MOVE that the Board of Supervisors, acting as the Board of Commissioners of the Los Angeles County Development Authority:

1. Authorize the Acting Executive Director, or designee, to execute, and if necessary, amend a funding agreement with the County to accept up to \$378,000 in HSC Funds allocated to the Fifth Supervisorial District;
2. Authorize the Acting Executive Director, or designee, to incorporate up to \$378,000 in HSC Funds allocated to the Fifth Supervisorial District into the LACDA's approved Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget, of which \$350,000 will be provided to The Salvation Army as a residual receipts loan for construction-related costs and \$28,000 (8%) will be retained by the LACDA for administrative costs related to the Project;
3. Authorize the Acting Executive Director or designee to negotiate, execute, amend, and if necessary, terminate a Loan Agreement and all related documents with The Salvation Army, or its LACDA-approved designee, to provide a loan up to \$350,000 in HSC Funds to fund new construction costs for the development of permanent supportive housing for homeless persons, following approval as to form by County Counsel; and
4. Acting as a responsible agency pursuant to CEQA, certify that the LACDA has considered the attached exemption determination for the Pasadena Hope Center project, which was prepared by the City of Pasadena as lead agency; and find that this project will not cause a significant impact on the environment.

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