COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
of the County of Los Angeles
2 Coral Circle • Monterey Park, CA 91755
323.890.7001 • TTY: 323.838.7449 • www.lacdc.org

Gloria Molina
Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Zev Yaroslavsky
Don Knabe
Michael D. Antonovich
Commissioners

Carlos Jackson
Executive Director

May 13, 2008

Honorable Board of Commissioners
Community Development Commission of the
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Commissioners:

APPROVAL OF FUNDS FOR OPERATING COSTS AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR NEW IMAGE EMERGENCY SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS, INC.'S PROJECT FRESH START IN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES (2) (3 Vote)

SUBJECT:

This letter requests that your Board approve funding for New Image Emergency Shelter for the Homeless, Inc. for its Project Fresh Start. The funds will increase transitional housing, emergency beds and services available for homeless individuals and families in the County of Los Angeles.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find that the approval of funding for operating costs and supportive services at 1527 E. Newton Street in the City of Los Angeles is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), because the proposed activities will not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

2. Authorize the Executive Director of the Community Development Commission (Commission) to transfer to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) up to $500,000 in County General Funds (CGF) allocated to the Second Supervisorial District, following receipt of said funds from the Chief Executive Office (CEO), which will then be granted to New Image Emergency Shelter for the Homeless, Inc. (New Image) for operating costs and supportive services for 30 transitional

beds at its Project Fresh Start transitional housing program for homeless women.

3. Authorize the Executive Director to execute all required documents necessary to incorporate up to $500,000 in CGF allocated to the Second Supervisorial District into the Commission's FY 2007-2008 approved budget, upon transfer of said funds from the CEO.

4. Authorize the Executive Director to execute an amendment to the Interagency Agreement with LAHSA to add a total amount of up to $500,000 in CGF allocated to the Second Supervisorial District, to be effective following receipt of said funds from the CEO, approval as to form by County Counsel, and execution by all parties.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

The purpose of the recommended actions is to transfer to LAHSA Second District CGF, which will then be granted to New Image for operating costs and supportive services to enhance the homeless support system in the County of Los Angeles.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The actions described herein will be funded with a portion of the $20,000,000 in CGF approved by the Board of Supervisors on June 20, 2005, to fund the construction and/or renovation of year-round emergency shelters and enhancements to the homeless support system.

On November 22, 2005, the Board of Supervisors approved allocating $3,600,000 in CGF to each Supervisorial District with a 10% administrative fee, in the total amount of $2,000,000, reserved for the Commission.

The proposed transfer of funds from the Commission to LAHSA includes a total of $500,000 in Second District CGF for operating costs and supportive services associated with expanding operations and supportive services for homeless individuals.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

On June 20, 2005, in order to address the large numbers of homeless individuals and families and the corresponding critical shortage of beds in Los Angeles County, the Board of Supervisors approved an allocation of $20,000,000 for the construction and/or renovation of year-round emergency shelters and enhancements to the homeless support system.

On November 22, 2005, the Board of Supervisors directed the Commission to administer the funding and oversee all of the projects. The Board of Supervisors also instituted a method by which each Board Office selects recipients of CGF based on agency experience and the need for homeless services in the community, among other considerations.

In January 2007, your Board authorized funding for New Image's Project Fresh Start to fund its Project Fresh Start transitional housing program to house homeless women for up to six months. This request seeks to continue the funding for an additional year. The Interagency Agreement between the Commission and LAHSA will be amended to allocate up to $500,000 in Second District CGF for operating costs and services, for which LAHSA will enter into a grant agreement with New Image.

A complete description of New Image's Project Fresh Start is provided as Attachment A.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:

The proposed activities are not subject to the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines 15060(c)(3) and 15378, because they are not defined as a project under CEQA and do not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

IMPACT ON CURRENT PROJECTS:

Approval of these actions will allow for an increase in transitional housing, emergency beds and services available for homeless individuals and families in the County.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbette A. Glover

for CARLOS JACKSON
Executive Director

Attachments: 1

ATTACHMENT A
NEW IMAGE EMERGENCY SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS, INC.
PROJECT FRESH START

New Image Emergency Shelter for the Homeless, Inc. (New Image) is dedicated to long-term support of homeless persons in order to reintegrate homeless individuals and families into the community. It operates programs through the entire continuum of care year round, and is the largest provider of temporary emergency shelter services in Los Angeles County during the winter months.

Since it was founded in 1990, the agency has served over 600,000 homeless and low income individuals and families. In addition to a street outreach team targeting adults and youth, it operates a year round and winter emergency shelter providing up to 420 beds, as well as a transitional housing facility for 36 single men and women. Homeless persons are offered access to the homeless support system to help meet their most basic needs, and when they are ready, they can move from the street into shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing.

Project Fresh Start is a new transitional housing program for homeless women, which will expand New Image's existing continuum of services. Beds for up to 30 women will be available throughout the year to help them make the transition off the streets. The program objective is to provide safe temporary housing with access to social services that will allow the women to stabilize and to develop skills needed to achieve self-sufficiency and eventually transition to permanent housing. The program is located at 1527 E. Newton Street in the City of Los Angeles, close to public transportation, community colleges, hospitals, the Department of Public Social Services, and other social service agencies. Services will include comprehensive case management, housing assistance and placement, transportation, life skills, credit restoration, and medical services. Project Fresh Start will be leveraged with additional funding from a private foundation/trust and other public sources.

Operations and Service Funds	$ 500,000
Total request	**$ 500,000**