

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024**

**MINUTE ORDER NO. 12**

**SUBJECT:        AUTHORIZE CONTRACT EXTENSIONS WITH ARBOR E&T DBA EQUUS  
WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS FOR THE REGIONAL HOMELESS  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND MCALISTER INSTITUTE FOR  
INCLEMENT WEATHER PROGRAM (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**OVERVIEW**

On November 2, 2021 (4), the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) implemented and approved the County of San Diego (County) Framework for Ending Homelessness (Framework), which created a unified strategic approach to support the coordination of homeless services in San Diego County.

On January 27, 2016 (HA01), the Board approved the Inclement Weather Program (IWP), which would temporarily house unsheltered homeless individuals and families in response to high-risk inclement weather events. Subsequently, on May 19, 2020 (17), the Board approved the Regional Homeless Assistance Program (RHAP), an emergency housing program that supports people experiencing homelessness in the unincorporated communities by using local hotels and motels as emergency housing options coupled with case management, and housing navigation with the goal of connecting people to more permanent housing solutions. In addition, on February 8, 2022 (14), the Board approved the Compassionate Emergency Solutions and Pathways to Housing, which includes leveraging RHAP as an emergency housing option. Both IWP and RHAP are the critical components within the Framework. On February 27, 2024 (11), the Board approved the ongoing operational costs of RHAP through Fiscal Year 2025-26. Most recently, on March 12, 2024 (19), the Board authorized a new competitive solicitation of RHAP, which also includes the IWP component.

Today's action requests the Board authorize an extension of the current RHAP contract and the IWP contract terms through June 30, 2025, to allow for the competitive solicitation process to be completed. This extension will ensure that American Rescue Plan Act funding is obligated timely and will sustain core services to RHAP's existing program participants. Additionally, this extension will ensure that people experiencing homelessness in the unincorporated communities have emergency housing resources during inclement weather events. Today's action supports the County vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically for communities and populations in San Diego County that have been historically left behind, as well as our ongoing commitment to the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision of healthy, safe, and thriving communities. This item also advances the Framework by ensuring our most vulnerable community members have access to housing, care coordination, and connections to more stable housing opportunities.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

In accordance with Board Policy A-87, Competitive Procurement, and Administrative Code Section 401, authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting to amend contract No. 560945 with Arbor E&T (dba Equus Workforce Solutions) and contract No. 561988 with McAlister Institute for Treatment and Education to extend the contract terms through June, 30, 2025 , subject to the availability of funds; and to amend the contracts as required to reflect changes to services and funding allocations, subject to the approval of the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Health and Human Services Agency.

## **EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

The County of San Diego (County) is dedicated to addressing the root causes of homelessness and providing equitable access to preventative and supportive services for vulnerable residents. The mission of the County Health and Human Services Agency, Department of Homeless Solutions and Equitable Communities (HSEC) is to support under-resourced and vulnerable groups, immigrant and refugee communities, and those at risk of or experiencing homelessness. HSEC administers both the Regional Homeless Assistance Program (RHAP) and the Compassionate Emergency Solutions and Pathways to Housing program, which serve people experiencing homelessness in the unincorporated communities.

The 2024 Point-in-Time Count of people experiencing homelessness identified 10,605 individuals who were living on the streets or in shelters throughout San Diego County on one night. Of those, 201 were counted in the unincorporated areas of the county. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24, 526 households were served by RHAP, of which 44% were male, 56% were female, 29% were living with a disability, 8% were African American, 3% were American Indian, and 21% were Hispanic/Latino. Moreover, with respect to IWP, 3,714 duplicated households were served in FY 2023-24, of which 20% were Hispanic/Latino and 15% were African American.

The County engages people at-risk of or experiencing homelessness, impacted community members, community partners, and other key stakeholders in developing County plans to address homelessness. Their feedback is valued and incorporated into the development of programs. The County has conducted lived experience forums in the North, East, and South Regions to gain valuable information on shaping programs and has implemented regular lived experience feedback questionnaires. RHAP and IWP will provide needed emergency shelter and support to people across the unincorporated areas of San Diego County. This includes those who are disproportionately represented in the homeless system including, justice involved people, and people with a range of health and social needs, as well as Black, Indigenous and People of Color.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT**

Today's actions support the County of San Diego Sustainability Goal #2 of providing just and equitable access to services and resources, and Sustainability Goal #4 to protect the health and well-being of everyone in the region. The Regional Homeless Assistance Program and the Inclement Weather Program support the most vulnerable community members in the unincorporated communities to have just and equitable access to housing, services, and resources including connections to healthcare and behavioral health support.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-26 Operational Plan for the Health and Human Services Agency. If approved, this request will result in one-time costs and revenue of \$7,500,000 for Regional Homeless Assistance Payment and one-time costs and revenue of \$250,000 for Inclement Weather Program in FY 2024-25 for a total cost and revenue of \$7,750,000. The funding sources are American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding and existing General Purpose Revenue leveraged through ARPA under the Homeless Services component of the ARPA Framework. There will be no change in net General Fund costs and no additional staff years.

## **BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT**

N/A

**ACTION:**

ON MOTION of Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, seconded by Supervisor Vargas, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Vargas, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

ABSENT: Anderson

State of California)  
County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



**Signed**  
**by** Andrew Potter