

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2024**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 7

SUBJECT: RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON HOMEKEY PROGRAMS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

In March 2023, the California Department of Housing and Community Development announced the availability of the third round of Homekey program funds to rapidly expand the inventory of housing for people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Upon this announcement, the County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency, San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC), and City of San Diego expanded on prior efforts and partnered to ensure this funding opportunity was secured and leveraged to provide additional housing resources to the most vulnerable members in the San Diego region.

Subsequently on May 23, 2023 (25), the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) approved recommendations to authorize up to \$32 million in capital loans to SDHC and issue competitive solicitations for behavioral health supportive services at up to four Homekey developments; all actions contingent upon successful award of Homekey funds. Additionally, at this meeting, the Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer return to the Board within one year with benchmarks to measure the effectiveness of the programs.

In late 2023 and early 2024, SDHC received awards for three of the four developments securing over \$55 million in Homekey Round 3 funding. Although the Homekey program aims to expedite the process of producing affordable housing, the time from application to having the units fully operational may still be over two years. Construction and rehabilitation are currently underway at the three Homekey Round 3 developments.

Today's item provides an update on the Homekey Round 3 developments, inclusive of procurement status of behavioral health supportive services contracts, an overview of the general outcomes and benchmarks anticipated through the Homekey Round 3 programs, and an update on the progress of other developments supported by previous rounds of Homekey funding. This item supports the County vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all, specifically those 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 by supporting housing stability for people with behavioral health conditions, including those who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Receive an update on Homekey programs including status of behavioral health supportive services contracts.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

In the 2024 Point-in-Time Count, 10,605 people were identified as unsheltered or in shelters throughout the county. Of those who were unsheltered, 44% were identified as chronically homeless. The County of San Diego (County) is committed to finding equitable solutions to prevent and end homelessness by providing preventative and supportive services and permanent supportive housing. The Homekey program allows the County to expeditiously utilize a key funding resource that was established to meet the needs of historically underserved populations, specifically persons experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.

The Homekey program is funded through the California Department of Housing and Community Development and continues a statewide effort to sustain and rapidly expand housing for people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, and who are, thereby, inherently impacted by COVID-19 and other communicable diseases. Once operational, Homekey Round 3 funding will provide needed housing and supports to residents who are disproportionality represented in the homeless system, including justice-involved individuals and individuals with a range of health and social needs, as well as Black, Indigenous and People of Color. Homekey is an opportunity for the County to increase permanent supportive housing options for of the most vulnerable populations, providing not just housing, but ensuring that resources for supportive service are made available to the residents.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Today's proposed action supports the County of San Diego Sustainability Goal #2 to provide just and equitable access by ensuring affordable housing developments are restricted to individuals and families experiencing homelessness and chronic homelessness. This is supported by cultivating strong relationships with other local governmental entities and community partners, thereby allowing a symbolic relationship that has, at its core, a mutual, mission-driven goal to serve the communities that have been disproportionately impacted by poverty.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item. There is no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

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

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

ABSENT: Vargas

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