

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2022**

MINUTE ORDER NO. 6

SUBJECT: APPROVE \$10 MILLION CAPITAL EMERGENCY HOUSING SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZE GRANT AGREEMENTS WITH SELECTED CITIES (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

The San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) has prioritized addressing homelessness in our region, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Just last year, on April 6, 2021 (6) the Board established the Department of Homeless Solutions and Equitable Communities (HSEC) within the County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA). To unify the County's efforts and strategies, the Board approved the historic Framework for Ending Homelessness on November 2, 2021 (4).

The County has consistently been a leader in addressing homelessness through person-centered services, creating affordable housing developments, and creating funding opportunities to leverage partnerships. City jurisdictions may not have access to the same resources as the County. In recognition of this, the County will create a \$10 million Capital Emergency Housing Solutions Grant Program, in which the 18 incorporated cities in the region can apply for funding to support the creation of new emergency housing solutions within their jurisdictions. The goal of this grant program is to create meaningful, one-time capital investments that support the city jurisdictions in kick-starting new projects that result in long-term and sustainable overnight shelter solutions, including but not limited to emergency shelters, safe parking lots, sleeping cabins, tiny homes, or expanded capacity of an existing emergency housing solution.

Today's action requests the Board to approve the Capital Emergency Housing Solutions Grant Program funded at a total of \$10,000,000 and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, to execute grant agreements with the selected city jurisdictions to implement the program. Upon approval of this program, the County will send a notification to all 18 city jurisdictions, providing the official announcement of the commencement of this funding opportunity and detailing requirements and application information.

Today's actions support the County's vision of a just, sustainable, and resilient future for all San Diego County residents, particularly for historically underserved communities. Additionally, today's actions renew the County's support of the regional *Live Well San Diego* vision by ensuring low-income residents have access to suitable living environments, as well as enhancing the quality of life for residents by encouraging decent and affordable housing, which promotes a healthy, safe, and thriving region.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Approve the Capital Emergency Housing Solutions Grant Program funded at a total of \$10,000,000.

2. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, upon approval of applications and successful negotiations, to execute grant agreements with the selected city jurisdictions to implement the Capital Emergency Housing Solutions Grant Program.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The We All Count Point-in-Time Count (PITC) identifies the number of individuals living on the streets or in emergency shelters on one specific designated day of the year. In the 2020 Point-in-Time Count, 7,638 individuals were identified as living on the streets or in shelters throughout San Diego County. Of those who were unsheltered, 58% reported having a disability, which includes 37% of the population who reported having a mental health condition. Unified under a County of One approach, the County of San Diego is dedicated to addressing the root causes of homelessness and providing preventative and supportive services to the most vulnerable residents. The Framework for Ending Homelessness (Framework) outlines the path towards building the capacity to advance the San Diego County of Board of Supervisors' priority of addressing homelessness.

People of color are disproportionately impacted among those experiencing homelessness, with 27.2% identifying as Black or African American, roughly five times the proportion of African Americans in the region; 3.4% identifying as American Indian or Alaska Native, which is nearly three times the proportion in the region; 2.8% identifying as Asian and 28% identifying as Hispanic. Individuals at-risk of or experiencing homelessness, impacted residents, community partners and other key stakeholders were engaged during the development of the plans outlined in today's actions, and their feedback was sought and incorporated.

Ensuring racial and social equity in all aspects of homelessness prevention and response is one of the key principles that guide the Framework and all items that fall under its strategic domains. Additionally, securing equitable housing, supports and funding will assist those who are experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness throughout San Diego County. Therefore, it is anticipated that the recommended actions will provide needed housing and supports to individuals countywide, including those that are disproportionately represented in the system.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2022-23 CAO Recommended Operational Plan. If approved, this request will result in costs of \$10,000,000 in Fiscal Year 2022-23 for the Capital Emergency Housing Solutions Grant program. The funding source is General Purpose Revenue on a one-time basis. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

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

AYES: Vargas, Lawson-Remer, Fletcher, 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