



Legislation Text

File #: 2019-1397, **Version:** 1

To: Board of Supervisors

Department or Agency Name(s): Sonoma County Community Development Commission

Staff Name and Phone Number: Benjamin Wickham, 565-7542

Vote Requirement: Majority

Supervisory District(s): All

Title:

One-Time Housing Funds for Whole Person Care Pilot

Recommended Action:

- A) Adopt a resolution to accept approximately \$3.2 million in one-time housing funds for Whole Person Care Pilot.
- B) Authorize the Executive Director of the Sonoma County Community Development Commission to enter into, execute, and deliver all documents required or deemed necessary and appropriate by the State of California Health and Human Services Agency, Department of Health Care Services, to secure \$3.2 million in One-Time Housing Funds for Whole Person Care Pilot and to meet the County's and Commission's subsequent obligations related to these funds.

Executive Summary:

Approval of this item will authorize the Sonoma County Community Development Commission to accept and administer approximately \$3.2 million in one-time funds designated to cover the cost of capital investment for housing projects for Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are mentally ill and are experiencing homelessness, or are at risk of homelessness. These funds have been made available as part of the 2019-20 Governor's Budget, which invested \$100 million State General Fund (one-time with multi-year spending authority through June 30, 2025) for active Whole Person Care Pilot programs that provide housing services.

Discussion:

On August 9, 2019, the California Health and Human Services Agency, Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) released a notice of one-time funding for Whole Person Care Pilots. DHCS developed a funding allocation methodology that considers the prevalence of individuals who are mentally ill and experiencing homelessness using the Point in Time Count (PIT); geographical cost of living using Fair Market Rent (FMR); and WPC pilot performance. The exact allocation for the County of Sonoma is \$3,284,476.48.

According to the August 9, 2019 notice of funding, this funding is available for the costs of long-term and short-term housing, such as hotel vouchers and rental subsidies, as well as capital investment for housing projects for Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are mentally ill and are experiencing homelessness, or are at risk of homelessness. This funding may be used to match local county investments and shall not supplant existing funding for these services. This funding allocation does not require local match funding.

In view of the extreme need for additional permanent supportive housing units in Sonoma County, the Commission believes capital investment into new housing developments designed to serve those with a demonstrated medical need who are currently experiencing homelessness, or who are at risk of homelessness, to be the highest priority use for these funds. In line with this priority, the Commission will return to the Board of Supervisors within the next 12 months with a detailed item requesting approval to award these funds into a new permanent supportive housing development project designed to serve the specific demographic identified above. The Commission will explore the option to directly sponsor a new permanent supportive housing development project using these WPC funds; alternatively, the Commission may recommend an award of these funds to a qualified developer by means of a public, competitive process. DHCS will notify the Commission of final funding award decisions by September 30, 2019; the Commission will receive awarded funds no later than December 30, 2019. Following that, the Commission will have until June 30, 2025 to fully expend all funds awarded under this program. Within 90 days of full expenditure of funding, the Commission will be required to submit an evaluation and summary report describing the disposition of funds and the number of individuals served by the project.

Prior Board Actions:

N/A

FISCAL SUMMARY

Expenditures CR) please complete expenditure side of the table. Or, explain in the narrative below why expenses either for additional appropriations of projected are not available at this time.	FY 19-20 Adopted	FY20-21 Projected	FY 21-22 Projected
Budgeted Expenses	\$0		
Additional Appropriation Requested			
Total Expenditures	\$0		
Funding Sources			
General Fund/WA GF			
State/Federal	\$3,284,476.48		
Fees/Other			
Use of Fund Balance			
Contingencies			
Total Sources	\$3,284,476.48		

Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts:

Applications, in the form of a letter of interest, were due to DHCS by September 23, 2019. DHCS will notify applications of the final decision on September 30, 2019. All funding awarded will be fully processed and released to approved applicants by December 30, 2019. The Commission

expects to receive the full allocation of \$3,284,476.48 by this date; however, the Commission does not have an accurate projection of when funds will be disbursed into a project at this time. Within the next 12 months, the Commission will bring to the Board of Supervisors a recommendation to use these dollars to fund a new permanent supportive housing development project (either directly sponsored by the Commission, or sponsored by a developer chosen via a competitive, public process). The Commission will be in a better position to accurately forecast the timing of an expenditure of these funds in the presentation of that future item. The deadline to expend all funds is June 30, 2025.

Staffing Impacts:			
Position Title (Payroll Classification)	Monthly Salary Range (A-I Step)	Additions (Number)	Deletions (Number)

Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impacts (If Required):

No impact

Attachments:

1. Resolution to formally accept an award of one-time housing funds for Whole Person Care Pilot.
2. Copy of letter of interest submitted by Commission to apply for the full amount of these one-time funds allocated to the County of Sonoma.

Related Items “On File” with the Clerk of the Board:

None