



PUBLIC HEARING –HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP - AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (HOME- ARP) ALLOCATION PLAN

City Council Meeting
February 28, 2023

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BACKGROUND

- American Rescue Plan Act established HOME-ARP program in March 2021
- \$5 billion to provide housing, services, and shelter to individuals experiencing homelessness and other vulnerable populations
- City was allocated \$2,737,433
 - Up to 15% for administration

BACKGROUND

- HOME-ARP funds may only be used for the following four eligible activities:
 - Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA);
 - Development of affordable housing;
 - Supportive services;
 - Acquisition and development of Non-Congregate Shelter (NCS) units.

BACKGROUND

- HOME-ARP funds must be used to benefit individuals or families who are:
 - Homeless;
 - At-risk of homelessness;
 - Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking;
 - Other populations at risk of homelessness due to housing instability;
 - Veterans and families that meet one of the preceding criteria.

BACKGROUND

- To access the grant award, HUD requires consultation process
- Consultations inform development of an Allocation Plan to recommend use of the funds
- Allocation Plan must also include a gap analysis and needs assessment

BACKGROUND

- Consultation with the public and the following groups:

Continuum of Care (CoC)	Homeless service providers
Housing Authority	Veteran's service providers
Other local jurisdictions	Fair housing advocates
Domestic violence service providers	Persons with disabilities service providers

- Public Hearing to solicit feedback and encourage participation

BACKGROUND

- November 22, 2021: Housing Authority
- December 1, 2021: Public meeting
- February 23, 2022: Continuum of Care meeting – with the CDC
- May 26, 2022: Affordable housing developers – with the CDC

BACKGROUND

- June 30, 2022: Service providers for victims of domestic violence – with the CDC
- October 27, 2022: Service providers—homeless and veteran’s groups – with the CDC
- February 27, 2023: Housing Authority
- February 28, 2023: City Council Public Hearing

ANALYSIS

- Feedback received:
 - Greatest impact for use of funds – supportive services
 - Homeless prevention and housing stabilization
- One-time nature of funding would have less of an impact if used for development of affordable housing

ANALYSIS

- Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis
 - More people experiencing homelessness than shelter beds available
 - Over 7,300 households at risk of homelessness due to housing instability.

ANALYSIS

- The Plan was compiled using the following data sources:
 - U.S. Census Bureau;
 - Housing Inventory Count (HIC);
 - Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS);
 - American Community Survey (ACS);
 - The 2022 Sonoma Count Point in Time Count (PIT);
 - 2017 Violence Profile of Sonoma County;
 - Public input.

ANALYSIS

- From the public participation and consultation process, the use of HOME-ARP award is recommended for supportive services
- Housing & Community Services proposes a Request For Proposals (RFP) process to select subrecipients
- Plan is due to be submitted to HUD by March 31, 2023

ANALYSIS

- Feedback from this public hearing will be incorporated into the draft Plan
- Delegation of authority is needed for the City Manager to execute program-related documents

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Housing & Community Services Department that the Council, by resolution: 1) authorize submittal of the Home Investment Partnership – American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Allocation Plan (Plan) to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) incorporating comments received at the public hearing; 2) authorize the City Manager or their designee to execute the funding agreements with HUD and any additional documentation required by HUD to implement the HOME-ARP Program.

Questions?