

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL  
 HSOC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
 June 17, 2020, 1:00-2:30pm  
 Department of Social Services Room 356**

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF & GUESTS		
Devin Drake Janna Nichols Mariam Shah Scott Smith Susan Funk		George Solis Grace McIntosh Jeff Smith Jessica Lorange Laurel Weir Lisa Howe Russ Francis		
AGENDA ITEM			CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS	FOLLOW UP
1. Call to Order and Introductions	Mariam called the meeting to order.			
2. Public Comment	George passed on a comment from Public Works that the Blue Bag program was not included in the 2021 County budget.  Devin informed the group that there are plans to move the Safe Parking program from the Vets Hall to the Department of Social Services building on South Higuera Street. At present there are between 20-30 cars using the Safe Parking program overnight.			
3. Consent: Approval of Minutes			Janna made a motion to approve the minutes. Scott seconded. All were	

		in favor.	
4. Action/Information/Discussion			
<p>4.1. Discussion Item: Grant Updates</p> <p>4.1.1. Discussion Item: Homeless Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP)</p> <p>4.1.2. Discussion Item: Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAP)</p> <p>4.1.3. Discussion Item: California Emergency Solutions and Homelessness Grant (CESH)</p> <p>4.1.4. Discussion Item: California Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)</p> <p>4.1.5. Discussion Item: Continuum of Care Grant</p>	<p>Laurel provided updates on the various grants.</p> <p>The County is working with ECHO (El Camino Homeless Organization) and the City of Paso Robles to find possible alternate sites for their HEAP-funded project. The situation should be clearer by the end of July, but it's possible some HEAP funds could be reallocated if ECHO feel they cannot spend it before the expenditure deadline. If this does happen, ECHO will most likely seek replacement funding under the HHAP program, which has a longer expenditure timeline.</p> <p>The HHAP funding has not yet been awarded, in part due to the impact of COVID. The 2019 CESH funds have not been allocated yet either. The County intends to release a joint RFP for HHAP and CESH, most likely in late summer after working with State TA (Technical Assistance) to look at planning and coordination around these funding programs, and opportunities to address long term needs, particularly in light of the new funding streams that have been made available. Laurel confirmed that the intent of the funding will continue to be what HSOC voted on.</p>		

	<p>The Committee discussed options for ECHO's HEAP-funded project, such as repurposing the HEAP funds to 5CHC (5Cities Homeless Coalition) who have projects ready to begin but are waiting on funding, and using HHAP funds for ECHO instead. HHAP funding has a much longer expenditure window, which would allow ECHO time to find an alternate site.</p> <p>Laurel noted that the Board of Supervisors would need to approve a change of this nature.</p> <p>Janna cautioned that ECHO is on the cusp of acquiring property and so if HEAP money was repurposed now, and they had to wait until late summer for the HHAP RFP, they could lose this acquisition.</p> <p>Laurel clarified that any HEAP funds not expended by June 30 2021 would have to be given back, but funds already spent would not be affected.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the impact of COVID on homelessness as a priority for the State, as prior to the pandemic, a number of new funding programs were announced. Laurel confirmed that homelessness is still a priority for the State, but given the financial impact of COVID, it seems unlikely that we will continue to see new funding streams in the next couple of years. Laurel confirmed</p>		
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	<p>that there is no indication of HHAP funds being reappropriated by the State.</p> <p>Mariam asked if the Blue Bag program, which is no longer being funded by the County, would be eligible for funding under one of these grant programs. Laurel confirmed that street outreach is an eligible activity under ESG, and trash pickup could potentially fall under this, though she has not seen similar programs funded through ESG before. Janna shared that 5CHC have an arrangement with the City of Grover Beach where the City are collecting trash from an encampment. The process is complicated and expertise would be more important than just having bags provided.</p> <p>Laurel shared that the HUD (US Department of Housing and Urban Development) audit of the CoC (Continuum of Care) grant which had been scheduled for this year will now not be happening, due to COVID. An audit is now expected early next year.</p>		
<p>4.2. Discussion Item: COVID-19 prevention, response, and related impacts</p> <p>4.2.1. Discussion Item: CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and</p>	<p>Laurel shared that the Board of Supervisors awarded HSOC's recommended funding under the five different grant programs at their June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. These grant programs include the CDBG-CV (Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus), Federal and State ESG-CV (Emergency</p>		

<p>Economic Security) Act grants and California COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding</p> <p>4.2.2. Discussion Item: Coordination and planning</p>	<p>Solutions Grant – Coronavirus), COVID Emergency Homelessness Funding, and State ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant). The County is also due to receive nearly \$6.3 million under the second round of Federal ESG-CV. Permanent Housing is not an eligible use for this funding, but homelessness prevention, rapid rehousing, conversion and renovation are eligible. This funding will have an expenditure deadline of September 2021. Supervisor Gibson asked that HSOC undertake some planning activities before allocating this funding, and has asked County staff to look into the number of people who may become homeless based on available data.</p> <p>It is possible that the County may receive additional State ESG-CV funding, and that the State may receive second round funding for CDBG-CV, which may be available to Grover Beach as a non-entitlement jurisdiction.</p>		
<p>4.3. Discussion Item: 2021 Homeless Point in Time Count</p>	<p>Laurel explained that County staff are working on an RFP for a vendor for this work. It is too soon to tell what the COVID situation will be in January 2021 when the count will take place, but may require changes in how the count is done, e.g. providing masks.</p>		
<p>4.4. Discussion Item: Updating the Ten Year Plan to End</p>	<p>The Committee discussed setting aside funding for an outside consultant to help with updating the ten year plan, given the</p>	<p>Laurel to contact Tony</p>	

Homelessness	volume of grants that HSOC is now taking on. Updates to the ten year plan are eligible expenses under CESH, and possibly under the ESG program too.	Navarro to look into whether ESG funds can be used for updating the ten year plan	
4.5. Discussion Item: Video Conferencing	The Committee discussed using Zoom for video meetings rather than conference calls; all were in favor of moving to video calls. There may be restrictions on free Zoom accounts. County staff will research this.	County staff to look into possibilities with IT department	
4.6. Discussion Item: Committee Reports	<p>Scott reported that the Housing Committee did not meet.</p> <p>Devin reported that the Homeless Services Coordinating Committee did not meet.</p> <p>Janna reported that the Finance &amp; Data Committee did meet, but had no updates.</p> <p>Jeff reported that the Encampment Committee did meet, though due to recent events he was not able to chair. Janna chaired in his place, and reported that the Committee now has several working groups which will be meeting before the next Committee meeting in July.</p>		
5. Future Discussion/Report Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An update on the County budget, and how HSOC will be affected by cuts</li> </ul>		

6. Next Meeting Date: August 19, 2020			
7. Adjournment	Mariam adjourned the meeting at 2:15pm.		