

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
 HSOC HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING
 MARCH 3RD 2020, 2pm-3:30pm
 Department of Social Services
 Room 356**

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF & GUESTS
Anne Wyatt Carolyn Berg Joanna Balsamo-Lilien Ken Triguero Scott Smith	Cara Vereschagin Joe Thompson Mark Lamore	Laurel Weir George Solis Russ Francis Carolyn Berg Airlin Singewald Tim Waag Mike Byrd Sue Warren
AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS
1. Call to Order and Introductions of Guests	Scott Smith welcomed the group and introductions were made.	
2. Public Comment	<p>Laurel introduced George & Russ as new team members. George will be taking over responsibility for management of HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) and the CoC (Continuum of Care) grant. Russ will be taking over admin responsibilities including scheduling committee meetings and taking minutes.</p> <p>Laurel informed the group that the state has released its NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) for the California ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant). The county will be putting out an RFP (Request for Proposals) in the next couple of weeks and will share this with the full HSOC (Homeless Services Oversight Council).</p>	Any member who is not on the full HSOC list and wants to be added in order to receive this information, please contact Russ: rfrancis@co.slo.ca.us
3. Consent: Approval of Minutes		Anne made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by

		Joanna. The vote was unanimous.
4. ACTION/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION		
<p>4.1 Discussion Item: Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) update, Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) update, and California Emergency Solutions Grant Update</p>	<p>Laurel gave updates on the HHAP, HEAP and CA ESG (California Emergency Solutions Grant) programmes.</p> <p>HHAP: the application was submitted to the state in February. The County expects to hear back in April. The State has said that all CoCs will sign a data sharing agreement to upload client information into the state’s own system. The State is asking for this information for research purposes. This means there will be changes made to the data privacy notices that clients receive; this was a change due to happen anyway as the state is requiring more HMIS data. This change will go to the full HSOC meeting for approval. There is no timeline yet for when we will see this new data sharing agreement, and it is not yet clear if this will require the county to update its agreements with providers. One requirement of the HHAP grant is that the CoC must decide on outcomes to be measured, rather than outputs. For instance, “we will reduce the number of unsheltered homeless people by X% over Y period of time.” A further requirement is for the CoC to carry out planning, monitoring and periodic reports on these measures. The Finance & Data committee are looking into recommendations for this based on current and future activities. We are most likely going to use the PIT (Point In Time) count to measure outcomes, as HMIS data alone does not capture these changes as well.</p> <p>HEAP: The North County project is moving forward. ECHO (El Camino Homeless Organization) held its first community forum in Paso Robles, providing information on what is coming with a First Step Navigation Center being built. More public forums are upcoming. For more information on this, please contact Jeff Al-Mashat at ECHO: jalmashat@echoshelter.org</p> <p>Ken shared that Peoples’ Self Help Housing received a grant from HEAP for a supported housing project. The grant helped to purchase land. Peoples’ is now looking to obtain funding to build new housing. Peoples’</p>	

	<p>are submitting their plans for approval to the City of Pismo Beach soon.</p> <p>CA ESG: The 2018 grant has funded Coordinated Entry and Outreach. ECHO, 5CHC (Five Cities Homeless Coalition) and CAPSLO (Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo) are moving forward with this. CAPSLO is working with clients in the Morro Bay area, ECHO in North County, and 5CHC in South County.</p>	
<p>4.2 Discussion Item: County Housing Initiatives Update</p>	<p>Carolyn and Airlin from SLO County Planning & Building provided an update on County Housing Initiatives. This is a regional plan working with the cities and county planning departments on a coordinated effort across different agencies, looking at infrastructure needs for the next ten years. The main goals of the initiative are to ensure there is an adequate housing supply and resilient infrastructure, to encourage regional thinking and avoid cities and agencies becoming siloed, and preserving the natural character of the area. The initiative is also working on education and outreach to areas which do not have identified homeless sites, and to encourage awareness of regulations.</p> <p>Planning & Building have worked with the Housing Coalition to identify the level of funding required to build the low and very low income housing needed for the county. This is estimated to fall between \$2-4m. Planning & Building have been looking at how this need can be met through additional funding sources.</p> <p>Existing funding sources for affordable housing that the County allocates, not including the Continuum of Care (CoC) grants, have ranged from \$1-2 million per annum. Additional sources of funding in the future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA): the county will receive \$5.2m over the next five years, for which homelessness is an eligible activity. The deadline for the application to the state, which must include a five year plan for how the money will be spent, is the end of July. Activities must focus on people on low and very low incomes. • SB 1090 Essential Services Mitigation Funds: this is one time 	

	<p>funding to mitigate the impact of the closure of Diablo Canyon Power Plant. Of this funding, \$6.4m will be set aside for housing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A county wide affordable housing bond of \$40m may be feasible. This would require the approval of two thirds of registered voters; the motion could appear on the November ballot. Polling has shown that 45% of county residents have identified affordable housing and homelessness as the most pressing problem, and 73% are concerned about homeless people being able to find services and places to live. A draft ballot measure polled between 56%-60%. The consultant has suggested that this figure may rise with education and outreach, although a campaign would be very expensive and the County cannot take a lead role on advocacy. June 16th is the deadline for drawing up the ballot measure for November, but at present this depends on the Board of Supervisors approving the feasibility study for the bond. <p>Laurel suggested that Shallow Subsidies (financial assistance allowing for limited, needs based payments to be paid for a portion or subsidy of a participant's rent) could be an alternative means of funding. Some communities are using this to help people in shared housing.</p> <p>Other updates on the initiative included the status of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) in coastal communities. ADUs are allowed according to state law, but there is a conflict in coastal areas where there may be restricted capacity on water and wastewater demands for new units. This is a situation that is still unfolding.</p>	
<p>4.3 Discussion Item: Update on efforts to promote Tiny Homes and Tiny Villages</p>	<p>Anne gave an update on SmartShare Housing Solutions' recent activities. Rather than hold an expo this year, they are facilitating a series of workshops. 75 people attended the first workshop, which included a team from Cal Costal properties. This is a for-profit organization administering a micro homes project in Atascadero. They have identified further sites in San Luis Obispo and Monterey counties that may be appropriate sites for similar projects.</p>	

	<p>There are only two identified Tiny Houses on Wheels installed in San Luis Obispo city. There has been less interest in Tiny Houses than city planners expected. The strategy currently is to broaden this to include ADUs and garage conversions. Tiny Houses on wheels can be bought and installed for around \$50k, while ADUs include additional costs and on average will cost \$193k to permit and build (though recent laws have negated some fees). The next workshop will involve a speaker from County planning who will be talking about their experience of converting their garage into a second residence.</p> <p>Anne confirmed that there are local lenders for Tiny Houses, who offer payments at a considerably lower rate than a mortgage on a typical house. Anne also confirmed that the city's process regarding Tiny Houses is relatively simple and includes a charge of \$860 for the permit plus utility hookup.</p> <p>Under the new State law, if an ADU is under 750 square feet, there would be no separate utility fees so no second water meter required (installing a second water meter is very expensive and so could otherwise be prohibitive to building an ADU). Charges are proportional if the ADU is over 750 square feet.</p>	
<p>4.4 Discussion Item: Presentation on the Section 8 and other vouchers in San Luis Obispo County</p>	<p>Scott from HASLO (Housing Authority San Luis Obispo) shared information on the eight types of Housing Choice Vouchers available, including the Section 8 Program, and explained HASLO's role in issuing these. Scott provided a handout (please see the agenda packet for this meeting).</p>	
<p>5. Future Discussion Items</p>		
<p>6. Next Meeting Date:</p>	<p>April 7th, 2020</p>	
<p>7. Adjournment</p>	<p>Scott adjourned the meeting at 4:45pm.</p>	