

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
HSOC HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 6th 2020, 2pm-3:30pm
Zoom Call**

MEMBERS PRESENT		MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF & GUESTS
Cara Vereschagin Joanna Balsamo-Lillien Kathy McClenathen Ken Triguero Marianne Kennedy Mark Lamore		Anne Robin Anne Wyatt Scott Smith	Angela Smith George Solis Jeff Al-Mashat Laurel Weir Leon Shordon Rick Gulino Russ Francis Tom Sherman Wendy Lewis
AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION		CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS
1. Call to Order and Introductions of Guests	Marianne called the meeting to order at 2:05pm.		
2. Public Comment	Laurel shared that the State has issued the NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) for Round 2 of the ESG-CV (Emergency Solutions Grant – Coronavirus) program. The local RFP (Request for Proposals) will be released in a couple of weeks.		
3. Consent: Approval of Minutes			Mark made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Cara. The minutes were approved with none opposed and no abstentions.
4. Action/Information/Discussion			

<p>4.1 Discussion Item: Project Homekey</p>	<p>Laurel shared that HASLO (Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo) has applied to the Project Homekey program to acquire a motel in Paso Robles, and has received conditional approval from the State. This was a collaborative application with ECHO (El Camino Homeless Organization) and People's Self Help Housing. The State requires the site to be acquired no later than December 30 2020, and for the site to be occupied no later than 90 days after its acquisition.</p> <p>Wendy added that the process is moving ahead favorably. The State is helping with working through any issues.</p>	
<p>4.2 Discussion Item: Paso Robles Encampment Update</p>	<p>Laurel shared that the City of Paso Robles has established a temporary sanctioned encampment site on River Road, including an area where people can camp in tents and safe parking for RVs. This is intended as a temporary site which will be taken down in winter, as it is in an area that could be flooded. The City is now looking for alternate sites.</p> <p>Jeff shared that ECHO has CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security) Act money to open an emergency shelter in the winter, but have been unable to find anywhere in Paso Robles that allow them to rent for this purpose. Churches that have provided sites in the past are unwilling to do so again, due to problems in previous years.</p>	
<p>4.3 Discussion Item: Coordinated Entry Workgroup</p>	<p>George reported that HUD (Department of Housing & Urban Development) has recommended that CoCs (Continuums of Care) make temporary to Coordinated Entry prioritization, to prioritize individuals most at risk for complications from COVID-19, based on CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines. The Services Coordinating Committee has discussed this, and recommended that a Working Group be convened, consisting of healthcare professionals.</p>	
<p>4.4 Discussion Item: Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home</p>	<p>Laurel provided some background on this item. Matt Leal from the Department of Planning & Building presented on this RFP (Request for Proposals) at the last meeting. This RFP is for programs which are typically part of the annual Action Plan, including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships</p>	

<p>Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), County General Fund Support (GFS), Title 29 Affordable Housing Fund (T-29), Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA), and Emergency Solution Grant COVID-19 (ESG-CV).</p>	<p>Program (HOME), annual Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and County General Fund Support (GFS). In addition, this RFP includes Title 29 Affordable Housing (T-29) funding, the second round of ESG-CV (Emergency Solutions Grant – Coronavirus) and the new Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) funding.</p> <p>The ESG-CV funding is worth a little over \$6 million. In comparison, the annual ESG program is worth around \$150k. The focus of this funding is to prepare for, prevent and respond to the COVID-19 emergency. This is viewed broadly in terms of homeless people – anyone on the street is considered ‘at risk’ for the purposes of this program, so eligible activities include Rapid Rehousing, although rental assistance and case management can only be provided for a client for up to 12 months (as opposed to the annual ESG, for which it can be provided for up to 24 months). Homelessness prevention and street outreach are eligible activities under this program.</p> <p>DSS (Department of Social Services) will also be receiving around \$5 million in ESG-CV Round 2 funding, but this grant cannot be used for homelessness prevention activities. Landlord incentives is an eligible activity, such as three times the rent for a security deposit, or paying for the cost of repairs above the security deposit. Money is not available for temporary structures or trailers. Currently, ESG-CV funding can be used for the acquisition or rehabilitation of temporary structures, but recipients would need to pay HUD back after January 2022. HUD are working on changing this requirement, however.</p> <p>Cara shared that the City of SLO has around \$30k available for new Safe Parking programs in the City. SLOCOG (San Luis Obispo Council of Governments) has some money available for this purpose too.</p>	
<p>5. Next Meeting Date: November 3, 2020</p>		
<p>6. Adjournment</p>	<p>Marianne adjourned the meeting at 2:40pm.</p>	