

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

NOVEMBER 22, 2016

Extending Existing Rapid Rehousing Funds to Help Homeless Families

On October 13, 2015, the Board of Supervisors authorized the Community Development Commission (Commission) to accept \$3,000,000 in Homeless Prevention Initiative (HPI) funds, of which \$2,760,000 was to extend rapid re-housing services for homeless families with children to avoid disruptions when the First 5 LA funding for rental assistance and supportive services expired in March 2016, and \$240,000 to administer the program. On December 1, 2015, the Board approved the allocation of these funds to eight non-profit agencies through December 31, 2016 for families enrolled as of June 30, 2016. The funds are allocated to agencies originally selected through a Request for Proposal process for the First 5 LA Round 2 program.

Circumstances have dictated that the enrollment restriction needs to be extended until June 30, 2017 to fully expend all of the HPI funds. Many of the families enrolled through June 30, 2016 were subsequently placed in permanent housing using leveraged Section 8 and Shelter Plus Care vouchers, which freed up HPI funds, but since the agencies could not enroll additional families, this has left unspent program funds of approximately \$1.5 million as of November 1, 2016. In addition, locating affordable housing has taken longer than anticipated, and with the program ending December 31, 2016, agencies do not have sufficient time to provide the temporary rental assistance needed by families to become stabilized by the end of the program. Agency contracts will be amended to reflect the new deadline.

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**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
NOVEMBER 22, 2016  
PAGE 2**

To date, a total of 292 families have been enrolled and are receiving supportive services, and 242 families are receiving rental assistance. It is expected that the enrollment waiver and the program extension will allow existing enrolled families to continue to receive supportive services and rental assistance, as well as allow approximately 25 to 30 additional families to be assisted, using HPI funds, as well as other leveraged funds.

**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, ACTING AS THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (COMMISSION) OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES:**

- 1) Find that approval of the standard Homeless Prevention Initiative (HPI) Reimbursable Contract Amendment is not subject to the provisions of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines 15060(c)(3) and 15378, because it is not defined as a project under CEQA and does not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment;
- 2) Direct the Executive Director to extend the deadline to enroll additional homeless families for rental assistance and supportive services through June 30, 2017;
- 3) Approve and authorize the Executive Director, or his designee, to amend the HPI Reimbursable Contracts, for those agencies receiving HPI funds for their Rental Assistance and Supportive Services Projects, through June 30, 2017; and
- 4) Authorize the Executive Director, or his designee, to reprogram funds among the agencies receiving HPI funds as needed in order to fully expend all funds granted to the Commission by June 30, 2017.

(YV/DW)