



## Information Packet

Agenda Related Item(s) – File ID 20-00604 (3-A)

### ITEM(S)

**File ID 20-00604 (3-A)** - RESOLUTION – Authorizing Coordination to Align Spending Plans for COVID-19 Homeless Response using Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Emergency Solutions Grant Funding.

**Contents of Supplement: Updated staff report in the Background section and Homeless Rural Efforts to Date dated April 30, 2020**

### Item(s)

#### **Supplemental Information:**

Any agenda related public documents received and distributed to a majority of the City Council after the Agenda Packet is printed are included in Supplemental Packets. Supplemental Packets are produced as needed. The Supplemental Packet is available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office, 2600 Fresno Street, during normal business hours (main location pursuant to the Brown Act, G.C. 54957.5(2)). In addition, Supplemental Packets are available for public review at the City Council meeting in the City Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno Street. Supplemental Packets are also available on-line on the City Clerk's website.

#### **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):**

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## REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

**May 14, 2020**

**FROM:** CITY COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS  
(Councilmembers Miguel Arias, Esmeralda Soria and Garry Bredefeld)  
and  
LEE BRAND, Mayor  
Office of the Mayor & City Manager

**BY:** H. SPEES, Director, Strategic Initiatives  
Office of the Mayor & City Manager

### **SUBJECT**

**..Title**

RESOLUTION - Authorizing Coordination to Align Spending Plans for COVID-19 Homeless Response Using Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Emergency Solutions Grant Funding

**..Body**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt Resolution of the Council of the City of Fresno, CA, authorizing coordination with the County of Fresno and the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care to align spending plans and establish disbursement mechanisms that support the community-wide COVID-19 Homeless Response using Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Emergency Solutions Grant supplemental funding, Public Law 116-136.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The City—through the Mayor and the Council Subcommittee on Homelessness—and the County of Fresno—through the County Administrative Officer and County Supervisor Nathan Magsig, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors' designee—have collaborated with the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care and service providers to align varied resources to execute the COVID-19 Homeless Response (Response) for the prevention and containment of COVID-19 among individuals experiencing homelessness community-wide.

One-time State funding to address homelessness; Homeless Emergency Aid Program (2018), Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (2019), one-time State COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding Grant, Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV) funding for the community-wide Response warrant continued coordination.

Adoption of the proposed resolution will authorize staff to apply the City's ESG-CV dollars the Response maintaining the continuum of services. (See Attachment A—Resolution for COVID-19

Homeless Response Using ESG-CV Funding). This special allocation is separate from the City's annual ESG allocation.

Included with the proposed resolution is a table of how, generally, the City's ESG-CV funds will be applied to the Response. Any major reallocations of these resources due to changes in the nature or duration of the pandemic will be brought back to the City Council for reconsideration.

## **BACKGROUND**

On March 19, 2020, the State identified approximately \$2 million in flexible COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding Grant allocations to the City of Fresno (\$1,012,869.44), the County of Fresno (\$382,080.59) and the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (\$488,763.33). Recipients, in coordination with a strategy team, quickly developed, implemented, and executed the community-wide Response for prevention and containment. The Response consists of approximately 300 beds for families and individuals experiencing homelessness, supports handwashing and sanitizing stations throughout the community, continues security services at contracted hotels, adds cleaning at new bed sites and existing shelters, and other required services and supplies through, approximately the middle of June 2020.

During the Special Meeting on April 16, 2020, the City of Fresno redirected its State allocation to the County of Fresno through a Memorandum of Understanding to support the Response.

On April 2, 2020, the notification regarding ESG-CV funds from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocated \$2,103,510 to the City of Fresno. (See Attachment B—ESG Letter from HUD 04-02-2020)

In discussion with the County of Fresno, the Council Subcommittee on Homelessness raised several key items that have been addressed as follows:

1. The County will remain the contract holder for the extended period of service
2. The County has developed a plan for delivering shelter services in rural communities (See plan as Agenda Backup Material)
3. The City/County will return to Council within 45 days with a plan to transition existing shelter tenants into safe exits including permanent housing and various recovery and service settings
4. The City/County will evaluate current County owned properties for future use as homeless housing
5. The City/County will provide information to the Council Subcommittee on Homelessness to evaluate securing motels/hotels for conversion into permanent housing

The proposed resolution authorizes the City to continue participation in the Response, which may expand the number of beds, while maintaining existing beds, added through the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic or approximately mid-September. (It should be noted that the Joint Funding Plan embedded in Exhibit A of the Resolution is being updated periodically based on the roll out of services and is included here to show Council the general framework for services and their funding.)

## **ENVIRONMENTAL FINDINGS**

This Resolution is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act.

## **LOCAL PREFERENCE**

Local preference is not applicable because this resolution does not include an award of a construction or service contract.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no increase in Net City Cost associated with the recommended action. There is no matching contribution requirement for these funds.

### **Attachments:**

Attachment A – Resolution

Attachment B – ESG Letter from HUD 04-02-2020