

Agenda Item: ID#17-937 (10:10 A.M.)

Date: 7/20/17

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FRESNO CITY COUNCIL



Supplemental Information Packet

CITY CLERK, FRESNO, CA

Agenda Related Item(s) – ID#17-937 (10:10 A.M.)

Contents of Supplement:

1. HCDC Recommendation to Council
2. Additional Public Comments Received (Public Comment Period June 29 – July 14, 2017)

Item(s)

Actions pertaining to the City of Fresno 2017-2018 Annual Action Plan:

1. CONTINUED HEARING to obtain public comments regarding implementation of the City's proposed activities with federal grant funding; and
2. RESOLUTION - Adopting the 2017-2018 Annual Action Plan; approving submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for application of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons With Aids/HIV (HOPWA) Program Funds; and providing for sub recipient agreements.
3. ***RESOLUTION - 8th amendment to the Annual Appropriation Resolution (AAR) No. 2017-165 appropriating \$162,700 in additional funding consistent with the FY 2017-2018 HUD allocation (Requires 5 affirmative votes)

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):

The meeting room is accessible to the physically disabled, and the services of a translator can be made available. Requests for additional accommodations for the disabled, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or translators should be made one week prior to the meeting. Please call City Clerk's Office at 621-7650. Please keep the doorways, aisles and wheelchair seating areas open and accessible. If you need assistance with seating because of a disability, please see Security.

2017 JUL 17 AM 11 58

Update: Housing and Community Development Commission (HCDC) CITY CLERK, FRESNO CA Recommendation

Meeting Date: July 12, 2017

At a regularly scheduled meeting of the HCDC on July 12, 2017 a public hearing was conducted, and the HCDC made a recommendation to the City Council for consideration related to the Revised Draft 2017-2018 Annual Action Plan.

HCDC Item F – General Administration ID17-1001

Actions pertaining to the City of Fresno 2017-2018 Annual Action Plan:

1. CONTINUED HEARING to obtain public comments regarding implementation of the City's proposed activities with federal grant funding; and
2. RESOLUTION - Adopting the 2017-2018 Annual Action Plan; approving submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for application of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons With Aids/HIV (HOPWA) Program Funds; and providing for sub recipient agreements.

HCDC RECOMMENDATION: After the public hearing was concluded, the HCDC made the following motions and recommended approval of Annual Action Plan as revised.

MOTION 1: Commissioner Falke moved to recommend that staff increase the Marjaree Mason Center allocation of Emergency Solution Grant funding in the amount of \$100,000, in the categories of Rapid Rehousing for \$40,000 and Emergency Shelter for \$60,000, and; decrease allocations for WestCare California proportionally.

SECONDED: Commissioner Farrar

AYES: Chair Fiske, Commissioners Falke, Farrar, Harutyunyan, McKenzie, and Reyes

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Vice-Chair Hardie

MOTION 2: Commissioner Falke moved to recommend that staff increase the Valley Caregiver Resource Center allocation of Community Development Block Grant Public Service funding in the amount of \$141,000; decrease the City of Fresno's Parks, After School, Recreation and Community Service Departments Senior Hot Meal and/or After School Program(s) by \$141,000, and; that the City Council consider identification of \$141,000 in general funds to provide to the Senior Hot Meal and/or After School Program(s).

SECONDED: Commissioner McKenzie

AYES: Chair Fiske, Commissioners Falke, Farrar, Harutyunyan, McKenzie, and Reyes

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Vice-Chair Hardie

MOTION 3: Chair Fiske moved to recommend approval of the City of Fresno's 2017-2018 Annual Action Plan as revised.

SECONDED: Commissioner McKenzie

AYES: Chair Fiske, Commissioners Falke, Farrar, Harutyunyan, McKenzie, and Reyes

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Vice-Chair Hardie

14 Day Public Comment Period June 29, 2017 – July 14, 2017

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2017 JUL 17 AM 11 58

Revised Draft Annual Action Plan Released for Public Comment June 29, 2017
CITY CLERK, FRESNO CA

Comments Received by Letter or Memorandum:

1. Margaret Mims, Fresno County Sheriff-Coroner and Board of Director of **Marjaree Mason Center** stated the following in a letter to City staff member Tom Morgan: It has come to my attention that in the very near future, you will be voting to approve allocations for City of Fresno CDBG and ESG funds. On behalf of all of us, thank you for your support of the Marjaree Mason Center and our mission to provide support for victims of domestic violence. Last year, the Marjaree Mason Center provided over 40,000 nights of shelter. For survivors of domestic violence, a safe place to sleep at night for the victim and their children, is the ONLY way they will leave an abusive situation. We strongly encourage you to consider increasing the proposed allocations for Marjaree Mason Center in the categories of Emergency Housing and Rapid Rehousing. If you have any questions, I am happy to meet with you and our Executive Director, Nicole Linder to explain how your support will directly impact the citizens of Fresno.
2. Nicole Linder, Executive Director of the **Marjaree Mason Center** stated the following in a memorandum to City staff member Tom Morgan. The City of Fresno Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) is designed to identify sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons, as well as those at risk of homelessness, and provide the services necessary to help those persons quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness. Organizations awarded ESG funds provide assistance related to housing of persons at risk of becoming homeless and housing persons that are currently homeless, as well as provide housing relocation and stabilization services. On March 3, 2017, the Marjaree Mason Center submitted an ESG application asking for a total of \$354,901 to support an increase in emergency housing shelter & Rapid Rehousing services: 1) emergency shelter (\$183,720), 2) rapid rehousing (\$162,525), and 3) administration costs (\$8,656). The City of Fresno Housing Commission initially utilized the recommendations of a separate panel for funding allocations and the number one ranked agency for funding was West Care. Therefore, West Care was recommended to receive 100% of their request of approximately \$335,512 to serve 92 people, leaving most of the remaining amount of \$140,000 for Marjaree Mason Center to serve a total of 245 people. While we are grateful for ANY dollars to support the victims we serve, the recommended allocation is a substantial decrease from last year and will cause the elimination of the MMC Rapid Rehousing Program or cause us to create program that is not set up for success, as we cannot operate RRP as required: a full-time Case Manager and housing subsidies for 3-months, with only \$58,000. The decrease will also cause an

operational impact on our downtown Fresno Safe House operations due to unfunding positions required for domestic violence housing/crisis response. The concern is doubled by the fact that others with these same dollars, cannot provide the domestic violence victims emergency housing as required by legislation, so in essence, the City of Fresno will decrease its domestic violence program funding should this occur. As the City of Fresno's local community organization, and the only provider of homeless services for domestic violence victims and their families, we respectfully request a review of the funding allocations and keep Marjaree Mason Center at its current funding level so services will not decrease for this homeless population. This recommendation (to increase our proposed funding an additional \$100,000) was supported by the Housing and Community Development Commission at their meeting on July 12, 2017. Last year, Marjaree Mason Center housed 42 families through Rapid Rehousing with a budget of \$98,561 (current recommendation is \$58,878); and provided emergency shelter to more than 400 individuals (adults & children) with a budget of \$134,539 (current recommendation is \$73,720 for shelter). If the City of Fresno will maintain our prior budgeted allocations we will not have to decrease staff, nor decrease services for the next year. This would result in an increase of \$40,000 to the MMC Rapid Rehousing program and an approximate increase of \$60,000 for our emergency shelter. MMC will waive additional funding for administration costs, as we simply want to maintain our direct services.

3. Greg Anderson, Affiliated Partner DLL Insurance Agency stated on behalf of **Valley Caregivers Resource Center** the following in a letter to City staff member Tom Morgan. It has come to my attention that in the very near future City Council will be voting to approve allocations for City of Fresno CDBG and ESG. Each year, the non-profit Valley Caregiver Resource Center provides critical support services to our seniors and their caregivers throughout the city of Fresno. Last year alone, Valley Caregiver Resource Center (VCRC) provided information, education and valuable aid for over 5,000 residents who otherwise may not even have been aware of the services, programs and assistance that we make available to this vulnerable population. Indeed, with over 174,000 caregivers in the city of Fresno, their services, respite care, support and education tools are unique and invaluable. I strongly encourage you to consider the proposed allocation for Valley Caregiver Resource Center in the category of Non-Profit Public Service.
4. Christopher Morse, CPA, Partner Moss Adams LLP stated on behalf of **Valley Caregivers Resource Center** the following in a letter to City staff member Tom Morgan. It has come to my attention that in the very near future City Council will be voting to approve allocations for City of Fresno CDBG funds. The program for which they are seeking this funding is critical in their efforts to prevent homelessness in yet another segment of our population. This program will serve a population of low- to moderate-income seniors that is growing at an exponential rate and at high risk of

neglect, abuse, homelessness and even institutionalization .I strongly encourage you to consider the proposed allocation for Valley Caregiver Resource Center.

5. Sugi Pierce stated on behalf of **Valley Caregivers Resource Center** the following in a letter to City staff member Tom Morgan. Each year, the non-profit Valley Caregiver Resource Center provides critical support services to our seniors and their caregivers throughout the city of Fresno. Last year alone, Valley Caregiver Resource Center (VCRC) provided information, education and valuable aid for over 5,000 residents who otherwise may not even have been aware of the services, programs and assistance that we make available to this vulnerable population. Indeed, with over 174,000 caregivers in the city of Fresno, their services, respite care, support and education tools are unique and invaluable. It has come to my attention that in the very near future, you will be voting to approve allocations for City of Fresno CDBG and ESG funds. I am respectfully requesting your support. The program for which they are seeking this funding is critical in their efforts to prevent homelessness in yet another segment of our population. This program will serve a population of low- to moderate-income seniors that is growing at an exponential rate and at high risk of neglect, abuse, homelessness and even institutionalization. I strongly encourage you to consider the proposed allocation for Valley Caregiver Resource Center in the category of Non-Profit Public Service. Thank you for your support of Valley Caregiver Resource Center and their mission to provide support and education for unpaid family caregivers, especially in this challenging time of our aging population.

6. Allan Davis, MJR Creative Group stated on behalf of **Valley Caregivers Resource Center** the following in a letter to City staff member Tom Morgan. Each year, the non-profit Valley Caregiver Resource Center provides critical support services to senior citizens, and their caregivers, throughout the City of Fresno. Last year alone, Valley Caregiver Resource Center (VCRC) provided information, education and valuable aid for over 5,000 residents who otherwise might not be aware of the services, programs and assistance that we make available to this vulnerable population. Indeed, with over 174,000 caregivers in the city of Fresno, VCRC's services, respite care, support and educational tools are unique and invaluable. Caregivers do not get a lot of media attention, and often care for loved ones without complaint. Nevertheless, they do need support and resources to help them navigate the many challenges they face. In the very near future, you will be voting to approve allocations for City of Fresno CDBG and ESG funds. Respectfully, and with the needs of our stakeholders in mind, I am requesting your support of the commission's original recommendation, and most recent recommendation, to allocate funds to VCRC. The program this funding supports is critical to VCRC's mission of preventing homelessness in yet another segment of our population. This program will serve an ever increasing population of low-to- moderate income senior citizens who are at high risk for neglect, abuse, homelessness and institutionalization. I strongly encourage you to consider the proposed allocation for Valley Caregiver Resource Center in the

category of Non-Profit Public Service, so that the needs of low-to-moderate income senior citizens are met. Our seniors are the people who worked all of their lives to raise their families, pay taxes, and positively affect their city and valley. They, and their contributions, must not be forgotten as they live out the golden years of their lives, in the loving care of their family and friends, who desperately need the services provided by VCRC. Thank you for your support of Valley Caregiver Resource Center, and their mission to provide support and education for unpaid family caregivers and their senior relatives and friends, especially during these challenging times.

Comments Received by E-mail:

1. Eddie Arakelian stated the following in a message to City staff member Tom Morgan: **Valley Caregiver Resource Center** provides critical support services to our seniors and their caregivers throughout the city of Fresno. Last year alone, Valley Caregiver Resource Center (VCRC) provided information, education and valuable aid for over 5,000 residents who otherwise may not even have been aware of the services, programs and assistance that we make available to this vulnerable population. Indeed, with over 174,000 caregivers in the city of Fresno, their services, respite care, support and education tools are unique and invaluable. It has come to my attention that in the very near future, you will be voting to approve allocations for City of Fresno CDBG and ESG funds. I hope you consider the proposed allocation for Valley Caregiver Resource Center in the category of Non-Profit Public Service. Thank you for your consideration of Valley Caregiver Resource Center.
2. Mike Rolph, MJR Creative Group and Board of Director of **Marjaree Mason Center** stated the following in a message to City staff member Tom Morgan: It has come to my attention that in the very near future, you will be voting to approve allocations for City of Fresno CDBG and ESG funds. On behalf of all of us, thank you for your support of the Marjaree Mason Center and our mission to provide support for victims of domestic violence. Last year, the Marjaree Mason Center provided over 40,000 nights of shelter. For survivors of domestic violence, a safe place to sleep at night for the victim and their children, is the **ONLY** way they will leave an abusive situation. We strongly encourage you to consider increasing the proposed allocations for Marjaree Mason Center in the categories of Emergency Housing and Rapid Rehousing. If you have any questions, I am happy to meet with you and our Executive Director, Nicole Linder to explain how your support will directly impact the citizens of Fresno.
3. Lisa Smittcamp, Fresno County District Attorney and Board of Director of **Marjaree Mason Center** stated the following in a message to City staff member Tom Morgan: It has come to my attention that in the very near future, you will be voting to approve allocations for City of Fresno CDBG and ESG funds. On behalf of all of us, thank you for your support of the Marjaree Mason Center and our mission to provide support for victims of domestic violence. Last year, the Marjaree Mason Center provided over 40,000 nights of shelter. For survivors of domestic violence, a safe place to sleep at

night for the victim and their children is the ONLY way they will leave an abusive situation. We strongly encourage you to consider increasing the proposed allocations for Marjaree Mason Center in the categories of Emergency Housing and Rapid Rehousing. If you have any questions, I am happy to meet with you and our Executive Director, Nicole Linder to explain how your support will directly impact the citizens of Fresno.

4. Lynnette Zelezny, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs/Professor of psychology with California State University, Fresno and Board Director of **Marjaree Mason Center** stated the following in a message to City staff member Tom Morgan: The below message was sent to Mayor Brand and all Councilmembers to be included in their meeting packets. I am writing to strongly urge the Council to approve and increase the allocation of CDBG and ESG funds for Emergency Housing and Rapid Housing to support the growing number of women and children that need emergency safety and housing via the **Marjaree Mason Center**. As a board member of the Marjaree Mason Center and fellow citizen, thank you for your leadership and all that you do to improve the quality of life for all citizens in Fresno.
5. Ross Baird, Jerry Baird Agency, Inc. on behalf of **Valley Caregivers Resource Center** stated the following in a message to City staff member Tom Morgan: Each year, the non-profit Valley Caregiver Resource Center provides critical support services to our seniors and their caregivers throughout the city of Fresno. Last year alone, Valley Caregiver Resource Center (VCRC) provided information, education and valuable aid for over 5,000 residents who otherwise may not even have been aware of the services, programs and assistance that we make available to this vulnerable population. Indeed, with over 174,000 caregivers in the city of Fresno, their services, respite care, support and education tools are unique and invaluable. It has come to my attention that in the very near future, you will be voting to approve allocations for City of Fresno CDBG and ESG funds. I am respectfully requesting your support. The program for which they are seeking this funding is critical in their efforts to prevent homelessness in yet another segment of our population. This program will serve a population of low- to moderate-income seniors that is growing at an exponential rate and at high risk of neglect, abuse, homelessness and even institutionalization. I strongly encourage you to consider the proposed allocation for Valley Caregiver Resource Center in the category of Non-Profit Public Service. Thank you for your support of Valley Caregiver Resource Center and their mission to provide support and education for unpaid family caregivers, especially in this challenging time of our aging population.

Comments Received by Fax: None

Comments Received by Telephone: None

HCDC Public Hearing—July 12, 2017

Housing and Community Development Commission (HCDC) Meeting

Upon call for public comment, the following people addressed the HCDC:

1. Michelle Dibudio, Executive Director of Valley Caregiver Resource Center (VCRC) thanked the HCDC for their initial support reflected in the first draft. She stated that the revised action plan had eliminated VCRC funding entirely. Ms. Dibudio commended the HCDC for making the recommendation to fund a program that takes care of family caregivers. She reviewed the number of individuals benefiting from the program and indicated that it saves the State of California \$1.2 billion in care. Ms. Dibudio asked the HCDC for reconsideration stating that the \$141,000 request allowed for \$80,000 directly towards respite for care givers.
2. Nicole Linder, Executive Director of the Marjaree Mason Center (MMC) thanked the HCDC and commented that the City of Fresno has been incredibly supportive. She described that MMC serves over 5,600 individuals on an annual basis and that Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds are essential to successfully operate a portion of the domestic violence program. While she appreciates the process of ranking and recommending awards, she commented that the County also awards ESG funds but most recently they awarded non-competitive funds to WestCare California, and MMC was not able to apply. Ms. Linder also detailed the estimated number of individuals that the MMC would be able to serve far exceeded the number of individuals that WestCare California would be able to serve with the City's recommended funding. She stated that without additional funding, it would seriously decrease the MMC's ability to provide emergency and safe housing for clients and asked for reconsideration.
3. George Hostetter, reporter with the Central Valley Observer spoke about \$785,000 being allocated for three streetlight improvement projects, specifically related to Highway City. He questioned if the funding was split equally or if Highway City would be receiving \$329,000. Mr. Hostetter recalled his challenges tracking down the appropriate community center recently related to the return of \$329,000. He expressed that others are hopeful those funds would be invested back into Highway City and inquired if \$329,000 was placed back in infrastructure projects in Highway City, if the exchange was dollar-for-dollar, and if the process did not work that way, why not. **[City Response Provided at HCDC Meeting:** CDBG funds identified for the Highway City CDC were declined by the applicant prior to award, and reprogrammed through Substantial Amendment 2017-02. Funds proposed in the Draft Action Plan are newly allocated and a different type of activity.]