Leadership Council
December 19, 2019 | 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sonoma County Community Development Commission
1440 Guerneville Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. APPROVAL OF CURRENT AGENDA

4. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA
The public is invited to make comments on items within the Leadership Council’s jurisdiction that are not listed on the current agenda for up to 15 minutes. Public Comment may be up to 3 minutes, at the Chair’s discretion. Any additional general public comment will be heard at the conclusion of the meeting. While members of the public are welcome to the Council under the Brown Act, the Council may not deliberate or take action on items not on the agenda.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   A. October 24, 2019 Leadership Council Meeting Minutes

6. REGULAR CALENDAR
   A. Informational Items
      i. Update on Joe Rodota Trail encampment
   B. Action Items
      i. Staff recommendations on reallocated HEAP services funding
      ii. 2020-2021 Homeless Services Funding
7. REPORTS
   Leadership Council Chair
   TAC Chair and Task Group highlights

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

9. ADJOURN The next regular meeting of the Leadership Council will occur Thursday, February 27, 2020 from 1pm-3pm.

Attachments:
1. October 24, 2019 Leadership Council Meeting Minutes
2. Memo – Joe Rodota Trail Encampment Update
3. Memo – Staff Recommendations on Reallocated Homeless Emergency Aid Program funding
4. Memo – Recommendations for 2020-2021 Public Services Funding – Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program Funding

FUTURE MEETING DATES:
   Technical Advisory Committee meeting: December 23, 2019, 1:00p.m. – 3:00 p.m., 1440 Guerneville Road, Santa Rosa
   Housing First & Coordinated Entry Task Group Meeting: January 13, 2019, 10a.m. – 11:30a.m, 1450 Neotomas Avenue, Santa Rosa
   Leadership Council: January, TBD
   Leadership Council: Thursday, February 27, 2019, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., 35 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you require special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Sonoma County Community Development Commission at (707) 565-7500 (voice) or (707) 565-7555 (TDD). Translators and American Sign Language interpreters for individuals with hearing disabilities will be available upon request. A minimum of 48 hours is needed to ensure the availability of translation services.

In accordance with Government Code §54957.5, any materials of public record relating to an agenda item that are provided to a majority of the members less than 72 hours before the meeting will be made available upon request at the Sonoma County Community Development Commission, 1440 Guerneville Road, Santa Rosa during normal business hours and will be posted online 72 hours prior to each meeting. Materials of public record that are distributed during the meeting shall be made available for public inspection at the meeting if prepared by the lead agency or a member of the legislative/advisory body, or within two business days after the meeting if prepared by some other person.

Agendas and supporting documents can be found at: sonomacounty.ca.gov/Homeless-System-of-Care/
Leadership Council Meeting
October 24, 2019 | 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Lead Agency | Sonoma County Community Development Commission
1440 Guerneville Road | Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Minutes

1. **Call to Order:**
   Tom Schwedhelm called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

2. **Roll Call:**
   
   **Leadership Council Members Present:** Susan Gorin, Mark Krug, David Kuskie, Julie Combs, Rebekah Sammet, Don Schwartz, Lynda Hopkins, Kevin McDonald (representing Gabe Kearney), and Tom Schwedhelm

   **Leadership Council Members Absent:** None

   **Community Development Commission Staff Members Present:** Geoffrey Ross, Michael Gause, Chuck Mottern, Suzanne Whipple and Karissa White

   **Approval of Agenda:** Mark Krug motioned to approve the agenda. Julie Combs seconded.
   
   - **Ayes:** All
   - **Nays:** None
   - **Abstain:** None
   - **Absent:** None

   Julie Combs noted the need to have a standing item on each agenda for Council Members to discuss and vote on items for future agendas.

3. **General Public Comment:**
   Frank, a Santa Rosa community member, requested information on the funding decisions approved by the Leadership Council and the Home Sonoma County groups.

   Thomas Ells commented about the Joe Rodota Trail, requesting Council Members visit the trail.

   Adrienne Lauby, President of SAVS, encouraged people to conduct research on encampments, Safe Parking, and the need to offer shelter.

   Scott Wagner commented about the work of the Leadership Council with the Villages project and what was needed to move the project forward.
Brenda expressed the need to be proactive with the Joe Rodota Trail before it gets out of control and concerns about quality of life for people camping on the trail. She commented about open drug use on the trail, the need to incarcerate people who are refusing beds, increased access for mental health resources, and support for local law enforcement.

Phil Johnson, resident of Sonoma County and member of Citizens for Action Now, reported living behind the Joe Rodota Trail. He expressed concerns about the lack of enforcement on the trail, issues with drugs and fires from the encampment on the trail, and claimed that the County is enabling these behaviors.

Chair Tom Schwedhelm reported all materials for the Home Sonoma County meetings can be found online, including minutes, agenda and future meetings.

4. Approval of Minutes:
   Leadership Council Meeting of August 22, 2019. Don Schwartz requested a change on page 8 of the packet, which includes his vote in favor of the following motion for the Interim Governance Charter item:
   
   Don Schwartz made a motion to add at the bottom of page 7 the following language: one representative of the seven smaller cities to be appointed by the Mayors’ and Councilmembers’ at their first opportunity, position may be elected official or staff, taking one of the 4 allocated TAC positions.

   Susan Gorin moved to approve the minutes as amended. Mark Krug seconded.
   
   Ayes: Susan Gorin, Mark Krug, David Kuskie, Rebekah Sammet, Don Schwartz, Lynda Hopkins, and Tom Schwedhelm
   Nays: None
   Abstain: Kevin McDonald
   Absent: None
   Motion Passes.

   Leadership Council Special Meeting of September 26, 2019. Mark Krug requested the addition of language within the minutes outlining his feedback which includes, “workable system to measure prevention.” Rebekah Sammet requested an amendment to the language outlining her feedback which includes, “Allocate funds for professional staff.” Don Schwartz made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Lynda Hopkins seconded.

   Ayes: Susan Gorin, Mark Krug, David Kuskie, Rebekah Sammet, Don Schwartz, Lynda Hopkins, and Tom Schwedhelm
   Nays: None
   Abstain: Kevin McDonald and Julie Combs
   Absent: None
   Motion Passes.

5. Reports (Item 7 taken out of order)
   Leadership Council Chair
   Chair Tom Schwedhelm announced he will leave the meeting at 3:00pm, Vice Chair Mark Krug will Chair the meeting, with Lynda Hopkins stepping in if Mark Krug has to recuse himself. He proposed the Council create a subcommittee to create a county-wide policy and procedure for encampments. The Council agreed to address this item at the next meeting. Don Schwartz reported the need to include members
from the Mayor’s and Councilmembers of the medium and small cities within this subcommittee. Once the Council has approved the county-wide policy and procedure, it will be presented to each jurisdiction for approval.

6. Regular Calendar:
   A. Informational Items:
      I. Lahela Mattox, California Business, Consumers Services, and Housing Agency provided a presentation to the Council on State Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program Funding. The new HHAP funding is a one-time block grant, an extension of HEAP funding, with a new set of requirements. The Sonoma County Continuum of Care and the County will receive separate allocations but can chose to redirect funds collectively by choice. Distribution of funds is based on the Homeless Point In Time Count. Applications are due February 15, 2020, disbursements will be sent on April 1, 2020, and the funds will need to be spent by June 30, 2025.

      II. Sohab Mehmood, California Housing and Community Development, provided a presentation on current State Funding including No Place Like Home (NPLH), California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG).

      Don Schwartz requested a brief one page document that includes each funding source, amounts, and purpose from the CDC.

   Public Comment:
   Lisa Landrus commented about funds allocated towards clearing encampments and people who are refusing services. She expressed concerns with the use of funds, her support to expand the scope of the definition of gravely ill, and increased conservatorship.

   B. Action Items:
   I. Approve Evaluation Task Group recommendations on reallocated HEAP capital funding (item 6Bii taken first) Representative Andrea Garfia from the Performance Measurement and Evaluation (PME) Task Group and Michael Gause, Community Development Commission’s (CDC) Ending Homelessness Manager Michael Gause reported on the following three projects which voluntarily gave up funding from the FY 2019-2020 Homeless Services Funding: Casbah Entrepreneurs LLC, Palms Inn (Rehab); The Living Room, Road to Home (Acquisition); and Goodwill Industries of the Redwood Empire, Mental Health Homeless Services Peer Navigators (Services).

      The CDC’s Affordable Housing Director Benjamin Wickham and Ending Homelessness Manager Michael Gause met with the PME Task Group to compile recommendations for the unallocated $1.1 million in HEAP funding remaining from the projects. Benjamin Wickham informed the LC that rather than go through a new funding cycle, the group is proposing to allocate the remaining funds to capital projects that had significant cuts from the task group’s original funding recommendations. The three capital projects include the St. Vincent De Paul Sonoma County’s Gold Coin Permanent Supportive Housing project, Petaluma Ecumenical
Properties River City Senior Apartments, and Reach for Home’s Two Home Purchase. The projects are spread geographically with units in Petaluma, Santa Rosa, and in Healdsburg. Julie Combs requested information on the cost per unit for each of the housing projects and explained the need to have this information when making decisions for funding.

Tom Schwedhelm left the meeting at 3:00pm, Mark Krug will Chair the meeting, but has recused himself from this item due to conflict of interest. Lynda Hopkins stepped in as Chair of the meeting.

Public Comment:

Lisa Landrus commented with concerns about the Gold Coin purchase and the residents who were evicted from the property.

Alice Linn commented about the Performance Measurement and Evaluation Task Group’s work to identify and recommend new permanent supportive housing projects, but urged the community to focus more on the people living outside before prioritizing new permanent supportive housing units.

Celeste Austin commented about the homeless issue in the County and informed the group of her experience at the Living Room helping women transition from being chronically homeless to housing. She advised the Council that the community may need projects that are outdoors.

Don Schwartz made a motion to approve the Evaluation Task Group’s recommendations of the reallocated HEAP capital funding. Julie Combs seconded.

Ayes: Susan Gorin, David Kuskie, Julie Combs, Rebekah Sammet, Don Schwartz, Lynda Hopkins, Kevin McDonald
Nays: None
Abstain: Mark Krug
Absent: Tom Schwedhelm
Motion Passes.

II. Coordinated Entry Evaluation Update & Policy Recommendations (item 6Bii taken second)

Housing First and Coordinated Entry Task Group Chair Barbie Robinson presented three recommendations from the task group that would provide immediate benefits to the system. All of the proposed recommendations were outlines as areas to improve within the Coordinated Entry System’s Evaluation conducted in July of 2019.

Recommendations:

1. **Review and enhance the VI-SPDAT rather than adopting an entirely new scoring tool:**
   ACCESS Sonoma’s Interdepartmental Multi-Disciplinary Team to work on enhancements with the task group.

2. **Review and adjust prioritization of shelter for a split of 50% referrals from Coordinated Entry and 50% at providers’ discretion:** Sonoma County implemented Coordinated Entry (CE) System procedures that include emergency shelter referrals and was one of the very few communities that manage emergency shelter this way. The idea was to provide an
opportunity to shelter those in the community with the highest service needs who were unable to access shelter through first-come first-serve operations. This led to 90% of CE referrals going to emergency shelters and less time to focus on housing related referrals. The group proposes 50% of referrals to emergency shelters will go through Coordinated Entry for high needs clients and 50% will managed via the provider. This will provide additional staff time to focus on permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing referrals.

3. **Approve County Interdepartmental Multidisciplinary Team (IMDT) as review body for rejected referrals in permanent supportive housing:** The CoC is required to have a process to appeal decisions related to CE referrals. The Task Group recommends that ACCESS Sonoma’s IMDT will represent the non-conflicted appeals body in the rare instances of permanent supportive housing referral rejections.

**Public Comment:**

Tom Bieri, Community Support Network’s Executive Director, requested the Leadership Council delay the approval of the appeals body, reporting the need for additional time to set up the process. He stated issues with landlord rights and the provider’s responsibility to ensure the safety of household members in congregate living situations have not been fully vetted.

Lisa Landrus commented about assessing people and their needs.

Annie Nichol commented in favor of changing or enhancing the VI-SPDAT.

Thomas Ells commented with support for the emergency shelter split and appeals body.

Kevin McDonald left at 3:42 pm.

Lynda Hopkins left at 3:35 pm.

**Item One: Modifying and Enhancing the VI-SPDAT**
Julie Combs motioned to approve the item. Susan Gorin seconded.

- Ayes: Susan Gorin, David Kuskie, Julie Combs, Rebekah Sammet, Don Schwartz, Mark Krug
- Nays: None
- Abstain: None
- Absent: Tom Schwedhelm, Kevin McDonald, Lynda Hopkins

Motion Passes.

**Item Two: Emergency Shelter Referral Split**
Council members agreed to include a three and six month review of this proposal to look at emergency shelter bed utilization, rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing placements.

Don Schwartz motioned to approve the item as amended to include a three and six months review of the new process. With Susan Gorin seconded.

- Ayes: Susan Gorin, David Kuskie, Julie Combs, Rebekah Sammet, Don Schwartz, Mark Krug
- Nays: None
- Abstain: None
- Absent: Tom Schwedhelm, Kevin McDonald, Lynda Hopkins

Motion Passes.
Item Three: ACCESS Sonoma IMDT Appeals Body for Coordinated Entry
Mark Krug informed the Council that he does not support this recommendation and that referral rejections should be a performance issue which can be factored into future funding.

Don Schwartz motioned to approve the item. With Julie Combs seconded.
   Ayes: Susan Gorin, David Kuskie, Julie Combs, Don Schwartz
   Nays: Mark Krug
   Abstain: Rebekah Sammet
   Absent: Tom Schwedhelm, Kevin McDonald, Lynda Hopkins
   Motion Passes.

III. Brown Act Compliance Follow-up (item 6Biv taken third)
Community Development Commission’s Executive Director Geoffrey Ross discussed the motion related to the recommended reallocation of Sonoma Applied Villages (SAVS) funding under the HEAP awards for the Living Room/Homeless Action! projects that occurred on April 17, 2019. Since the discussion and corresponding motion were not incorporated in the actual agenda and were not noticed as such, the motion and corresponding vote was not in conformance with the Brown Act. The motion permitted the Community Development Commission (CDC) to begin negotiations with SAVS for a contract that would allow for reimbursement of up to $60,500 in funds with a fiscal sponsor in place by January 1, 2020. The CDC requests a formal motion in compliance with the Brown Act. Geoffrey Ross informed the Council of the requirement of the SAVS project to get an environmental clearance and a Scope of Work for the project.

Susan Gorin motioned to approve the CDC to begin negotiations with SAVS for a contract that would allow for reimbursement of up to $60,500 in funds with a fiscal sponsor in place by January 1, 2020.

Geoffrey Ross noted the CDC cannot release funds until the agency receives environmental clearance and a detailed scope of work for the project as the agency has not identified their project to date.

Public Comment:
Thomas Ells commented about the Home Sonoma County working groups, the requirements of the Brown Act, and the lack of notification of when the meetings occur.

Julie Combs motioned to approve the CDC to begin negotiations with SAVS for a contract that would allow for reimbursement of up to $60,500 in funds with a fiscal sponsor in place by January 1, 2020. Rebekah Sammet seconded.
   Ayes: Susan Gorin, David Kuskie, Julie Combs, Don Schwartz, Rebekah Sammet
   Nays: None
   Abstain: Mark Krug
   Absent: Tom Schwedhelm, Kevin McDonald, Lynda Hopkins
   Motion Passes.

Attachment 1: October 24, 2019 Leadership Council Meeting Minutes
IV. Approve Evaluation Task Group as Ad Hoc Committee and approve redesign of Data Initiatives Task group to Performance Management and Data Initiatives Task Group (item 6Bi taken last) Community Development Commission Executive Director Geoffrey Ross and Ending Homelessness Manager Michael Gause confirmed that all Task Groups are currently Standing Committees and are subject to the Brown Act. The CDC recommends the Leadership council approve the restructuring of two Task Groups, the Performance Management & Evaluation Task Group and the Data Initiatives Task Group. In order to streamline policy, performance, and funding recommendations, staff recommend approval of the Evaluation Task group as an Ad Hoc Committee that only meets with the specific purpose of making funding recommendations to the Leadership Council on an as-needed basis. Staff also recommend that the Data Initiatives Task Group includes oversight of performance management, including development of policies for annual funding competitions tied to analysis of data and outcomes from HUD System Performance Measures and other local priorities.

Public Comment:
Alice Linn commented about the evaluation process and how some people were asked to recuse themselves due to possible conflicts of interest. She reported these recusals did not involve financial conflicts of interest and could have unintentionally caused discrimination on tent and village project proposals.

Julie Combs motioned to approve Evaluation Task Group as Ad Hoc Committee and approve redesign of Data Initiatives Task group to Performance Management and Data Initiatives Task Group as approved by legal counsel. Susan Gorin Seconded.
Ayes: Susan Gorin, David Kuskie, Julie Combs, Mark Krug, Rebekah Sammet
Nays: None
Abstain: Don Schwartz
Absent: Tom Schwedhelm, Kevin McDonald, Lynda Hopkins
Motion Passes.

7. Reports (continued):
No staff were present to report out on the TAC and Task Group highlights.

Continuation of Public Comment:
Alice Linn Commented about the crisis on the Joe Rodota Trail and other communities that have had success with housing people in tents. She expressed her support for villages and tent encampments.

Arlene Haig requested meeting recordings to be available online.

8. ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. by Mark Krug.
Respectfully Submitted,
Karissa White, Senior Community Development Specialist
December 19, 2019

TO: Home Sonoma County Leadership Council

FROM: Michael Gause, Ending Homelessness Program Manager and Geoffrey Ross, Executive Director

RE: Item 6Ai. Update on Joe Rodota Trail encampment

In this item, Home Sonoma County staff provide an overview of coordinated actions addressing the encampment along the Joe Rodota Trail. The County of Sonoma and the City of Santa Rosa continue to work in partnership to assist individuals obtaining housing and services in a coordinated manner.

Background

Over the past several months, a homeless encampment of approximately 160-175 people has developed along the Joe Rodota Trail. The encampment is located in the Roseland neighborhood incorporated into the City of Santa Rosa in 2017. Approximately 60% of those living on the trail are men while 40% are women. About 5-10% are youth, ages 18-24 years old. The overall age of those who are on the Joe Rodota Trail each night is between 35-50 years old.

Five different teams of trained homeless outreach workers have offered services, shelter, and other support to those on the trail since early November. Catholic Charities Homeless Outreach Team serves as the lead outreach team with support from Reach For Home, COTS, Social Advocates for Youth, and the County’s Interdepartmental Multidisciplinary Team (IMDT). To date, approximately 70 people accepted shelter or housing. This includes over 40 individuals alone during the week of October 27th as a result of enhanced outreach during the Kincade Fire.

Current Outreach Efforts & Stakeholder Engagement

Outreach efforts are coordinated by the Ending Homelessness Program Manager with Home Sonoma County’s Lead Agency, the Community Development Commission. Weekly outreach coordination meetings are held with all teams and County/City of Santa Rosa staff to closely coordinate efforts and ensure that documentation of services is being provided as well as tailor interventions to the needs of each individual’s unique circumstances.

Outreach workers work in three sections of the current encampment with a team of three outreach representatives (HOST, SAY, Reach for Home) dedicated to each section and the Count
IMDT serving as a floating resource for all sections of the trail. Offers of shelter and housing continue to be made based on the unique circumstances of each individual on the trail.

Additionally, Lead Agency Staff have provided in-person coordination on the trail since October 2019, have convened weekly meetings with City of Santa Rosa partners at weekly Homeless Encampment Assistance (HEAP) meetings, and most recently began a corresponding County version of HEAP meetings involving health services and first responders.

Next Steps

In an effort to improve coordination, members of the public who wish to donate supplies—including food, clothing, and basic survival gear—are encouraged to bring items directly to the outreach teams and local winter shelters. This will ensure that supplies reach those who need them most, while keeping the trail clear from excess garbage and unsanitary conditions.

The JRT encampment continues to change, as homelessness is not a static event for most people. Often, it takes time to build trust. It’s not uncommon for people to enter the system of are and leave it several times before they are permanently housed. Lastly, since 2017 (federal fiscal year), the Continuum of Care has brought roughly 3,100 people experiencing homelessness into permanent housing. In addition, our system’s overall retention rate—meaning the percentage of people who remain permanently housed for more than a year—has risen to 95% in federal FY 19.

The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors will hold a special meeting on December 23rd, 2019 at 9am to review a final range of options for addressing the encampment on the Joe Rodota Trail.
December 19, 2019

TO: Home Sonoma County Leadership Council

FROM: Michael Gause, Ending Homelessness Program Manager and Benjamin Wickham, Affordable Housing Manager

RE: Item 6Bi. Staff recommendations on reallocated HEAP funding

In this item, Home Sonoma County staff provide several options and updates on reallocated HEAP funding. $507,308 is available in reallocated funding from two projects, and an additional $162,692 has been requested by Sonoma Applied Village Services (SAVS) for an outreach project. Action is required by the Leadership Council prior to January 1, 2020, in order to contractually obligate these funds.

Background

On April 17, 2019, the Leadership Council approved final funding amounts for all FY19-20 Homeless Services awards. On October 24, 2019, the Leadership Council approved recommendations on approximately $1 million funding that was voluntarily forfeited from projects that had been awarded funds in April. Since that time, additional funds have been released and recommended for re-programming prior to the January 1, 2020, statutory deadline for contractually obligating at least 50% of HEAP program funds. Below, staff outlines an overview of funding that has either been voluntarily reprogrammed or proposed to be utilized in a different manner.

Progress Foundation Peer Respite Project

Progress Foundation was awarded $200,200 for a services project for to support peer respite in collaboration with Sonoma County Behavioral Health. However, no matching funds were identified to support the pilot project, and Progress Foundation has no choice but to voluntarily forfeit funding.

Sonoma Applied Villages Services Capital Projects

Sonoma Applied Villages Services (SAVS) was awarded $450,000 for capital projects pre-development for villages and safe parking at locations to be determined. This funding was originally allocated to The Living Room with Homeless Action! as a partner but was voluntarily forfeited in the summer of 2019. In October, the Leadership Council approved a new entity,
SAVS, for the funding for capital pre-development at 1 site. However, SAVS informed staff that the site could not pass environmental clearance. Thus, SAVS voluntarily forfeited the capital funding. SAVS requests to keep a portion of the funding for a services project (see below) and voluntarily releases an additional amount. Staff supports SAVS in moving forward with a services contract and recommends a new capital project operated by a different provider for the remainder.

**Staff Recommendations**

1. Staff recommends a services project in the amount of $200,200 for either navigation services, master leasing, or security and operations on the Joe Rodota Trail. The first two options would serve the entire system of care, while the third option would be time-limited and only serve occupants on the Joe Rodota Trail.

Option #1:

Allocate the full amount for an extra-help housing navigator (HN) assigned to the Housing Authority who will provide services to homeless clients who have Housing Choice Vouchers or rental assistance vouchers funded by Continuum of Care dollars. The HN will engage with clients, link them to appropriate mainstream resources, and assist them with locating and obtaining a rental unit. Client-based cross departmental collaboration will be important to ensure clients have the greatest chance at maintaining long-term, stable housing. The HN will be also be the conduit between Behavioral Health clients and the Housing Authority, though the project will serve the entire system of care. This provides critical linkage for individuals who have housing vouchers but need intensive support to obtain housing and go through the process of applying for housing.

Option #2:

Master-leasing units for individuals who are experiencing homelessness is an efficient, cost-effective way to quickly house individuals directly from the street. An additional $220,000 in master lease funding could provide funding for approximately 10 individuals to be housed for a year based on the annual cost of a unit at $21,000. This funding could be applied to an existing contract that provides master leasing, or the Lead Agency could conduct a procurement process.

Option #3:

Funding for operations and security on the Joe Rodota Trail encampment to provide safety for current occupants of the trail.

2. Staff recommends a services project in the amount of $162,692 for SAVS to initially serve outreach needs as assigned in the City of Santa Rosa and greater Sonoma County. The SAVS project will require coordination with other nonprofit service providers under contract through HOME Sonoma County. Locations of outreach efforts should be under the advisement and direction of the CDC to coordinate and ensure best the most
effective use of the project. Should the project be successful, a recommended for second-year funding for FY 20-21 may be determined appropriate. Outcomes expected from this project would be typical of other outreach projects funded through HOME Sonoma County. These will focus on the number of individuals entered into Coordinated Entry, with other activities stated in their application able to be reported in Quarterly Reporting. With a short timeframe, a focus on Coordinated Entry and HMIS data entry will require training for a quick ramp-up and will give SAVS the basis for preparing for potential funding in Fiscal Year 20-21.

3. Staff recommends a capital project in the amount $287,308 to support pre-development work on six permanent supportive housing units at the Faerie Ring property just outside of the city of Guerneville in West County.

Two Crows, a local organization headed by Simon Farmer, owns and operates this project. Two Crows will work in partnership with West County Community Services as the fiscal sponsor. Faerie Ring serves a community of very-low-income residents, many of whom are elderly and/or handicapped, in an area of the county with few affordable housing resources. (The last RV park in the area that sold to an investor has been converted into a high-end Airstream hotel). Most of the residents at Faerie Ring do not have other housing options and have trouble financially supporting their basic needs. Two Crows is seeking funding to maintain affordability while improving quality of life and repairing the decades of deferred maintenance from years of neglect on the part of previous owners.

Since taking ownership of the park in 2018, Two Crows has focused on getting to know the residents, cleaning up trash, improving site safety, and forging partnerships with community groups who can help residents, including West County Community Services and Health Services. Virtually all of the residents at Faerie Ring live in old, deteriorating travel trailers. Working with West County Community Services Two Crows has identified and replaced some of the oldest RV’s for the most vulnerable residents.

The next major step in Two Crows’ plan is to improve the site is to construct six small homes at Faerie Ring with the understanding that completing the utility work and other site improvements will pave the way for more development of this kind. The initial infrastructure work is an investment in the future of Faerie Ring Campground as a high quality, small-home community providing low-income housing in West Sonoma County.

The predevelopment component of this project is to install and improve existing infrastructure, specifically, replacing the old water supply lines, extending water and
electricity to sites without it, and installing sewer lines to each site. Extending the water and electricity service will create the six new spaces for permanent affordable housing. In addition to being a necessary step in the larger plan to construct these new, stick-built homes in the park, new sewer lines will massively improve the quality of life for all of our residents, allowing them to use their own restroom facilities. Currently residents have to use public facilities or haul their wastewater to a dump station and many are not physically fit to do so.

Project Timeline and Costs

The entire pre-development project will be completed within a one-year timeframe at a projected cost of just over $400,000. The phases of this project are as follows:

Phase I- Planning: December 2019-February 2020

The first important phase of this project is engaging an engineering group to provide us with a Site Plan and Design for the infrastructure work that we propose. If we are able to secure funding, we can begin this design process immediately and hope to have the initial designs completed by February 2020. Cost: $55,000

Phase II- Permitting: February 2020- April 2020

Once we have created our initial design and site plan we will work with PRMD to get the permits necessary to complete all work. Simultaneously we will be securing bids from various contractors to complete the agreed upon scope of work. Cost: $100,000

Phase III- Utility/Site Work: May 2020-September 2020

We will break ground to begin replacing, extending, and improving infrastructure in May of 2020 with a projected completion date of September 2020. Deliverables: new water supply lines to all sites; new sewer drain lines to all sites; extended electrical service and water lines to sites without one or both; improved drainage and surfacing of all sites. Cost: $250,000 (TBD based on Contractor Bids)
December 19, 2019

TO: Home Sonoma County Leadership Council

FROM: Michael Gause, Ending Homelessness Program Manager and Felicity Gasser, Federal Funding Program Manager

RE: Item 6Bii. FY 20-21 Homeless Services Funding

In this item, Home Sonoma County staff recommend utilizing FY 20-21 Homeless Services Funding to provide second year funding for existing homeless services contracts. Specifically, staff recommend utilizing one-time funding from the Homeless Housing Assistance and Preventon Program (HHAP) under the purview of the Leadership Council, as well as other annual local and state funding, to ensure continuity of services and support for the homeless system of care.

**Overview**

- Each year, the County of Sonoma and Home Sonoma County award funding to homeless service providers to collectively impact key system performance measures of the Federal Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act which governs all federal and informs State homelessness funding. These measures are as follows: Decrease the length of homeless episodes
- Increase placements in safe housing for those living outside; increase placements in permanent housing for all homeless persons
- Reduce the percentage of people placed in permanent housing who return to homelessness
- Decrease the number of people experiencing homelessness for the first time
- Increase employment opportunities and incomes
- Reduce the total number of people experiencing homelessness in Sonoma County

Historically, these funds have been awarded through a competitive Notice of Funding Availability. Last year, for the first time, funding decisions for how to allocate certain state funds (Homeless Emergency Aid Program, California Emergency Solutions and Housing, State Emergency Solutions Grant) were made by your body, the new governance structure for the homeless system of care. Your body also made funding recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for how to allocate certain local and federal funds (Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Fund, County General Fund and Renewal and Revitalization funds, Transient...
Occupancy Taxes and Measure L funds, Community Development Block Grant funds) over which the Board has ultimate discretion.

Last year, available funding for the homeless funding cycle was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Entity with discretionary budget authority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Services Fund</td>
<td>610,000</td>
<td>Sonoma County Board of Supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Fund – Services</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>Sonoma County Board of Supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Shelter Expansion</td>
<td>210,000</td>
<td>Sonoma County Board of Supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonoma Valley Homeless Initiative – one time funds</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>Sonoma County Board of Supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal CDBG Public Services</td>
<td>132,171</td>
<td>Sonoma County Board of Supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Emergency Solutions Grant</td>
<td>145,927</td>
<td>Sonoma County Board of Supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Emergency Solutions Grant</td>
<td>213,121</td>
<td>Sonoma County Board of Supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Emergency Solutions and Housing</td>
<td>379,788</td>
<td>Sonoma County Board of Supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnership HealthPlan of California – one time funds</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>Partnership Health Plan of California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless Emergency Aid Program – one-time investments to bolster homeless system of care</td>
<td>11,505,727 (included awards of $7.34 million for capital projects)</td>
<td>Home Sonoma County Leadership Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>14,096,734</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This year, the available funding is substantially less, and will not include awards made for capital projects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Entity with discretionary budget authority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Services Fund</td>
<td>610,000</td>
<td>Sonoma County Board of Supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low and Moderate Income Housing Asset Fund – Services</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>Sonoma County Board of Supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Shelter Expansion</td>
<td>210,000</td>
<td>Sonoma County Board of Supervisors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
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<td>--------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Federal ESG</strong></td>
<td>145,927</td>
<td><strong>Sonoma County Board of Supervisors</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) one-time block grant funds</strong></td>
<td>3,510,865.38</td>
<td><strong>Home Sonoma County</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>4,726,792</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recommendation**

This year, rather than hold a competitive NOFA, the Commission recommends that current contracts be renewed in order to maintain continuity of services. The funding available will be less than in FY 2019-2020, so each homeless service provider will be subject to some reduction in its contract size.

This includes funding the Leadership Council’s allocation of $3.5 million in Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) one-time block grant funds. The remainder of HHAP funding, approximately $3.2 million, is at the discretion of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors. This is in preparation for the end of one-time funding that has come from the state for two years, and a future right-sizing of awards made to community partners who are integral to the homeless system of care. The current strategic planning underway by Focus Strategies will be augmented by the collection of measures being captured by homeless service providers that will help the Commission and this body to understand how funding drives outcomes.

The Commission will bring a proposal with specific contract renewal amounts to this body at a January meeting to be scheduled in order to meet the February 15, 2019 HHAP application deadline.