



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: August 4, 2009

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Housing and Redevelopment Division, Community Development Department

SUBJECT: Application For Homelessness Prevention And Rapid Re-Housing Program Funding

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Approving the Submittal of an Application for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funds – Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program; and
- B. Authorize the Community Development Director to execute all required certifications, apply for, and accept a State of California Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) grant of not more than \$1.6 million and to sign the Standard Agreement and any subsequent amendments thereto, and perform any and all responsibilities in relationship to such contract.

DISCUSSION:

The State of California issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) on July 8, 2009 for Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP), under Title XII of Division A of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The City of Santa Barbara was not a direct entitlement jurisdiction for HPRP funding from Housing and Urban Development (HUD). However, the City and/or non-profit agencies providing services in the City are eligible to apply for these funds under the competitive State NOFA.

Staff held an informational meeting on July 21, 2009 to see if there was interest in applying as a multi-agency collaboration. Several non-profit service providers expressed interest; however none of them have the capability to serve as the Lead Agency. City staff offered to submit the application as the Lead Agency and administer the grant if it is received.

As a multi-agency applicant, each partner in the collaborative can request up to \$300,000, not to exceed \$1.6 million total.

The purpose of the HPRP is to provide homelessness prevention assistance to households who would otherwise become homeless and to provide assistance to rapidly re-house persons who are already homeless. Assistance can be in the form of financial assistance (rent, security and utility deposits, utility payments, moving costs, motel and hotel vouchers) and housing relocation and stabilization services to assist participants with housing stability and/or placement (case management, outreach and engagement, housing search and placement, legal services, credit repair).

The HPRP application is due by August 6, 2009 to the State Department of Housing and Community Development. The application process requires adoption and submittal of a resolution by the applicant. Awards will be announced in mid-September and contracts will be executed on or about September 30, 2009

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

If awarded, the City would receive 1% of the grant for administration as well as up to 11% for data collection and evaluation. It is anticipated that the partner agencies would receive a portion of the data collection and evaluation funds for staff costs associated with preparing reports. In addition, the 11% for data collection and evaluation would include the purchase of Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) software, training and staff time associated with the collection and reporting of data required by the HPRP grant.

The application also includes funding for the Rental Housing Mediation Task Force Program for information, staff consultation and mediations for persons at-risk of imminent homelessness.

PREPARED BY: Sue Gray, Community Development Programs Supervisor

SUBMITTED BY: Paul Casey, Community Development Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office