

**COUNTY OF SONOMA
AGENDA ITEM
SUMMARY REPORT**

Clerk of the Board Use Only
Meeting Date / / **Held Until** / /
Agenda Item No: _____ **Agenda Item No:** _____

Department: Community Development Commission

() **4/5 Vote Required**

Contact:
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Board Date:
August 25, 2009

Deadline for Board Action:
August 25, 2009

AGENDA SHORT TITLE:

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) – Agreement with Catholic Charities

REQUESTED BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION:

Concurrent Resolution of the Board of Supervisors and the Sonoma County Community Development Commission approving an Agreement with Catholic Charities for an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$225,500) to provide coordination, case management, housing placement, and legal services for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP), and authorizing the Executive Director of the Community Development Commission to execute the Agreement and to make minor, non-substantive changes to the Agreement following review and approval of County Counsel as to form.

CURRENT FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT

EXPENDITURES

Estimated Cost \$

Amount Budgeted \$

Other Avail Approp. \$
(Explain below)

Additional Requested: \$

Explanation (if required):

ADD'L FUNDS REQUIRING BOARD

Contingencies \$
(Fund Name:)

Unanticipated Revenue \$
(Source:)

Other Transfer(s) \$
(Source:)

Add'l Funds Requested: \$

Prior Board Action(s):

4/26/05: Board approved Sonoma County Consolidated Plan 2005

5/6/08: Board approved the Action Plan: One Year Use of Funds FY 2008-2009

5/12/09: Board approved Substantial Amendment to the Action Plan: One Year Use of Funds FY 2008-2009 to receive ARRA – HPRP funds

Alternatives - Results of Non-Approval:

Failure to approve Agreement with Catholic Charities will delay HUD-funded HPRP while a new contractor is solicited.

Background: [Agreement with Catholic Charities are on file with Clerk of the Board]

As part of the federal government's "stimulus" legislation, a new nationwide program was developed called the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). Administered by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the program's goal is to lessen the impact of the current economic downturn on the incidence of homelessness. The program approach is two-fold, to prevent homelessness for individuals and households imminently at risk through direct financial assistance and other measures and for those that are already homeless, to provide assistance in being re-housed as quickly as possible.

The federal funding was allocated to local "Entitlement Jurisdictions" and state governments using existing formulas. Locally, the Sonoma County "Urban County" (the unincorporated county plus the incorporated jurisdictions of Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Rohnert Park, Sebastopol, Sonoma, and Windsor in a Joint Powers Agreement) and the City of Santa Rosa are the two Entitlement Jurisdictions eligible for this direct federal funding.

While it is normally the case that Entitlement Jurisdictions are precluded from seeking the same funding type through the secondary competitive allocation staged by state government, in the case of HPRP, Entitlement Jurisdictions can, under specified conditions, also pursue additional HPRP funding controlled by the State's Department of Housing and Community Development.

The focus of this agenda item is the direct funding from the federal government. This funding is not competitive; the funds are awarded on a formula basis provided certain baseline requirements are met and certain procedural steps followed. The HPRP funding controlled by the State is allocated competitively to local governments and non-profit agencies and the County's participation in that competition is the subject of a separate Board of Supervisors agenda item coincidentally scheduled for the same Board meeting as this item. If the State awards additional HPRP funding in response to the application in which the County is a program partner, the subject of the companion agenda item, then that secondary HPRP program would be in addition to and supplementary to the HPRP program funded by the "entitlement" process, the subject of this agenda item, and slated to begin approximately September 1, 2009.

On May 12, 2009, the Board approved and adopted a Substantial Amendment to the Sonoma County Consolidated Plan: One Year use of Funds FY 2008-09 in order to receive \$817,572 from the HUD under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). The Board also authorized and directed Community Development Commission (CDC)

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Attachments: Concurrent Resolution

On File With Clerk: Agreement between Catholic Charities and Community Development Commission

CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY

Board Action (If other than "Requested")

Vote:

Continued from Page 1:

staff to work in conjunction with City of Santa Rosa, which received a separate allocation of \$516,527 in HPRP funding from HUD, to develop a fully detailed program design for a local, countywide HPRP funded by the two jurisdictions, and to issue a joint Request for Proposals to solicit a qualified contractor to provide coordination, case management, housing placement, and legal services. This will include temporary financial assistance, housing relocation, and housing stabilization services to individuals and families with household income of below 50% of the Area Medium Income as determined by HUD, who are homeless or would be homeless but for this assistance. The CDC and City will enter into separate agreements with the contractor. The CDC's Agreement will pay for personnel costs associated with the provision of all services, and the City's agreement will pay the costs of direct short-term financial assistance provided to eligible households.

Following the HPRP regulations closely, CDC and City staff fleshed out the details for the local HPRP and incorporated the program provisions into a Request for Qualifications that was sent out to the local service providers included on the CDC's Consolidated Plan interested parties list, as well as to 21 public posting sites throughout the County. Two agencies responded to the RFP: Catholic Charities and Community Action Partnership of Sonoma County (CAPSC). An eight-person review committee comprised of two CDC and two City staff members, two members of the City's Housing Authority governing board, and one member each from the CDC's advisory Community Development and Technical Advisory Committees.

After reviewing and discussing the merits of both proposals, the review committee unanimously voted to recommend the selection of Catholic to provide the services. Their proposal earned higher scores under each of the review and selection criteria: 1) appropriateness of the proposal; 2) quality of past work, reporting experience and fiscal management history; 3) demonstrated organizational capacity to deliver the project, including ability, expertise and experience to perform the work described; 4) data management capabilities, and the ability to manage financial resources effectively and efficiently. CAPSC was provided with a scoring summary of their proposal, and declined the opportunity to appeal the committee's recommendation.

The attached Concurrent Resolution approves the CDC Agreement with Catholic Charities in an amount not to exceed \$225,500, and authorizes the Executive Director of the CDC to execute the Agreement and to make minor, non-substantive changes to the Agreement following review and approval of County Counsel as to form.