Agenda: Special Meeting of the Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH)

Meeting date, time, and place

THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE GOVERNOR’S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 DATED MARCH 17, 2020, WHICH SUSPENDS CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE RALPH M. BROWN ACT.

Date: March 26, 2020
Time: 10:00 am – 11:30 am
Place: WebEx Meeting – Council Members will be forwarded instructions

Members of the public may call:
- Access #: (877) 820-7831
- Participant Passcode: 470718#

Note: Please remember to silence your cell phones.

Call to Order
Chair or Designee will call the meeting to order 10:00 – 10:05 am

Introductions
Chair or Designee will lead the Introductions of the ICH Members 10:05 – 10:10 am

Agenda Items:
The following items are presented for informational, consent, and discussion purposes.

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<th>Public Comment</th>
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<td>Open to the public for comments via email only at <a href="mailto:homelessrfp@hss.sbcounty.gov">homelessrfp@hss.sbcounty.gov</a></td>
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<td>In the subject line provide your full name and public comment next to it or item #. Your comments will be read for the record.</td>
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Discussion

1. Authorize the County of San Bernardino Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or the Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) to direct expenditure of the special HHAP coronavirus response funds in the amount of $508,056.61 to seek an immediate shelter response for the countywide homeless population as a result of the COVID-19 epidemic – Tom Hernandez, Office of Homeless Services 10:30 – 10:45 am

2. Authorize the County of San Bernardino Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or the Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) to direct expenditure of the unspent CESH funds up to the amount of $1,600,000 to seek an immediate shelter response for the countywide homeless population as a result of the COVID-19 epidemic – Tom Hernandez, Office of Homeless Services 10:45 – 11:00 am
Authorize the County of San Bernardino Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or the Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) to direct expenditure of any reduced HEAP funds based on the following parameters: provider noncompliance with spending or violation of the current contract provisions and the ability to modify current contract provisions with current HEAP providers to respond to the COVID-19 crisis – Tom Hernandez, Office of Homeless Services

Closing
11:15 – 11:30 am

Council Roundtable
Open to comments by the Council

Next ICH Meeting
The next regularly scheduled Interagency Council on Homelessness meeting is scheduled for:

April 22, 2020 (subject to change)
9:00 am – 11:00 am
County of San Bernardino Health Services (CSBHS) Building
850 E. Foothill Blvd., CSBHS Auditorium
Rialto, CA 92376

THE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING FACILITY IS ACCESSIBLE TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES. IF ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES OR OTHER AUXILIARY AIDS OR SERVICES ARE NEEDED IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC MEETING, REQUESTS SHOULD BE MADE THROUGH THE OFFICE OF HOMELESS SERVICES AT LEAST THREE (3) BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO THE PARTNERSHIP MEETING. THE OFFICE OF HOMELESS SERVICES TELEPHONE NUMBER IS (909) 386-8297 AND THE OFFICE IS LOCATED AT 215 N. D STREET, SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92415. http://www.sbcounty.gov/dbh/sbchp/

AGENDA AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION CAN BE OBTAINED AT 215 N. D STREET, SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92415
FROM: Tom Hernandez, Chief of Homeless Services

SUBJECT: Direct expenditure of the special Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) coronavirus response funds to respond to the regional coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic

DATE: March 26, 2020

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the County of San Bernardino Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or the Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) to direct expenditure of the special HHAP coronavirus response funds in the amount of $508,056.61 to obtain immediate shelter resources for the countywide homeless population as a result of the COVID-19 epidemic.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On March 19, 2020, the Governor of the state of California, Gavin Newsom issued a mandatory, statewide shelter-in-place order with the purpose of limiting exposure of Californians to the COVID-19. This order has called for the shutdown of all non-essential services within the State. The Executive Order is legally enforceable.

The day prior, on March, 18, 2020, Governor Newsom had taken emergency action to direct the first allocation of emergency funding recently authorized by the Legislature for COVID-19 related activities to local governments and continuums of care (CoCs) for shelter support and emergency housing to address COVID-19 among the homeless population. This action will provide resources to local jurisdictions to move vulnerable, homeless residents into shelter by, “removing regulatory barriers and securing trailers and hotels to provide immediate housing options for those most at risk. Helping these residents is critical to protecting public health, flattening the curve and slowing the spread of COVID-19.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), “people experiencing unsheltered homelessness (those sleeping outside or in places not meant for human habitation) may be at risk for infection when there is community spread of COVID-19.” The CDC recommendation advises for quick action to move individuals and families into housing units made available (including trailers, motel/hotels, etc.).

Approval of this authority will allow the County of San Bernardino CEO or AEO to respond to the Governor of California’s direction to house the homeless during the statewide coronavirus epidemic as a result of the global pandemic, utilizing the State CoC funds within the scope and usage defined within State law and gubernatorial mandate. Actions taken pursuant to this authorization are subject to Interagency Council on Homelessness Board of Directors ratification within ninety (90) days following such action.
FROM: Tom Hernandez, Chief of Homeless Services

SUBJECT: Direct expenditure of the unspent California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) funds to respond to the regional coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic

DATE: March 26, 2020

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the County of San Bernardino Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or the Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) to direct expenditure of the unspent CESH funds up to the amount of $1,600,000 to obtain immediate shelter resources for the countywide homeless population as a result of the COVID-19 epidemic.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On March 19, 2020, the Governor of the state of California, Gavin Newsom issued a mandatory, statewide shelter-in-place order with the purpose of limiting exposure of Californians to the COVID-19. This order has called for the shutdown of all non-essential services within the State. The Executive Order is legally enforceable.

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FROM: Tom Hernandez, Chief of Homeless Services

SUBJECT: Direct expenditure of the recaptured Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funds to respond to the regional coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic

DATE: March 26, 2020

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the County of San Bernardino Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or the Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) to direct expenditure of any reduced HEAP funds based on the following parameters: (1) provider noncompliance with spending or violation of the current contract provisions, and (2) the ability to modify current HEAP providers’ contract provisions to respond to the COVID-19 crisis.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On March 19, 2020, the Governor of the state of California, Gavin Newsom issued a mandatory, statewide shelter-in-place order with the purpose of limiting exposure of Californians to the COVID-19. This order has called for the shutdown of all non-essential services within the State. The Executive Order is legally enforceable.

The day prior, on March, 18, 2020, Governor Newsom had taken emergency action to direct the first allocation of emergency funding recently authorized by the Legislature for COVID-19 related activities to local governments and continuums of care (CoCs) for shelter support and emergency housing to address COVID-19 among the homeless population. This action will provide resources to local jurisdictions to move vulnerable, homeless residents into shelter by, “removing regulatory barriers and securing trailers and hotels to provide immediate housing options for those most at risk. Helping these residents is critical to protecting public health, flattening the curve and slowing the spread of COVID-19.”

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Approval of this authority will allow the County of San Bernardino CEO or AEO to respond to the Governor of California’s direction to house the homeless during the statewide coronavirus epidemic as a result of the global pandemic, utilizing the State CoC funds within the scope and usage defined within State law and gubernatorial mandate. Actions taken pursuant to this authorization are subject to Interagency Council on Homelessness Board of Directors ratification within ninety (90) days following such action.