The County of Yuba

Health and Human Services Department

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jennifer Vasquez, Director
Melissa Shaw, Deputy Director
Health and Human Services Department

SUBJECT: Adopt Resolution authorizing the Director to apply to California's Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency for the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program Round 5 grant funds

DATE: April 9, 2024

NUMBER: 79/2024

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors adopt the Resolution of the Board:

1. Authorizing the Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) Director to: participate in a regional application, and as the Administrative Entity for Yuba County, submit a complete Application Package to California's Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (Agency) for Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Program Round 5 grant funds and any subsequent funds allocated; and
2. Authorizing the HHSD Director to: execute, subject to review and approval of County Counsel, all documents as required by the Application Package and resultant allocation for the period of July 1, 2023 through October 1, 2028 including subsequently extended term; execute amendments, including but not limited, to amendments for additional or lesser funding; and accept, transfer and administer all HHAP Program Round 5 funds and any subsequent funds allocated for the stated period; and
3. Authorizing the HHSD Director to: enter into, execute and amend as needed, upon review and approval of County Counsel, the Memorandum of Understanding with eligible participating applicants for the term of October 1, 2023 through October 1, 2028 that will reflect the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan and memorialize each eligible applicant's commitment to participate in and comply with the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan.

Background:

California's Interagency Council on Homelessness (Council) has made grant funds available for the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Program Round 5. Building on the regional

coordination created through previous Agency grant funding, this fifth round of funding is intended to sustain existing federal, state, and local investment towards long term sustainability of housing and supportive services.

Round 1 of the HHAP Program was received June 9, 2020 in the amount of $467,092.48. Funding from Round 1 is being used to support ongoing operations at 14Forward, the County's emergency shelter, which has provided shelter to 557 participants in the referenced timeframe. These funds are available until June 30, 2025.

Round 2 of the HHAP Program was received August 17, 2021 in the amount of $213,528.00 and is being used to create a 12-unit regional permanent housing project, in collaboration with the Sutter Yuba Homeless Consortium. This project is scheduled for completion in late Fall 2024. These funds are available until June 30, 2026.

The application for Round 3 of the HHAP Program was submitted to the Agency on June 30, 2022. In the spirit of collaboration, the County applied jointly with the Sutter Yuba Homeless Consortium (SYHC) and Sutter County, with SYHC as the Administrative Entity. Yuba County's portion of the allocation totals $298,939.19 which will be used to support ongoing operations at 14Forward, the County's emergency shelter.

Round 4 of the HHAP Program was awarded on March 30, 2023 in the amount of $876,750.05. With HHAP Program Round 4 funding and the anticipation of two additional rounds of funding, a Yuba County Advisory Committee was assembled with representatives from Community Development, Sheriff's Office, Probation Department and HHSD to discuss options for the use of these funds.

After the Advisory Committee convened, it was determined that the funds should be used to support the creation of a navigation center that will encompass essential services in one location, including shelter and meals, in an effort to reduce unsheltered homelessness throughout the county. A navigation center will expand capacity and hours of operation, provide for daily provision of services from partner agencies, include robust case management and housing navigation in addition to providing separate buildings for overnight sheltering.

It is recommended that the County use Round 5 of the HHAP Program funds to support the Navigation Center developed partially through the use of HHAP Program Round 4 funds. The HHAP 5 Allocation is $751,895.25, and is available for use through June 30, 2028.

Discussion:

Eligible applicants for HHAP Program Round 5 funding include California's 44 Continuums of Care (CoC), 14 largest cities and 58 counties. For this round of funding, applicants must apply as part of a region, be signatory to a Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and submit a complete Application Package in order to receive their allocation. A region refers to a geographic area served by a county, including all cities and the CoC within it.

The HHSD Director seeks to submit a complete Application Package, on behalf of Yuba County, for HHAP Program Round 5 grant funds as part of a regional application with the COC. HHSD and the

COC will each be identified as an Administrative Entity, allowing them to receive and administer their allocation separately and be responsible for their respective funding plans. However, they will be required to jointly complete and submit a Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan that will lay out a strategic approach to address homelessness within the region. HHSD and the COC will also enter into a MOU that memorializes their commitment to participate in and comply with the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan.

Committee Action:

The Human Services Committee was by-passed, and this request is being brought directly to the Board of Supervisors for consideration due to time constraints associated with meeting the application due date.

***Fiscal Impact*:**

Budget

- Board Approved FY 2023-24 Budget Appropriations

Total Projected Cost

- $751,895.25

Source of Funds

- Non-General Fund: $751,895.25 State Funding
    - California's Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency's Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Program Round 5 grant funds

Attachments:

79-2024 Resolution for HHAP Program Round 5
79-2024 MOU with Sutter Yuba Homeless Consortium for HHAP Program Round 5