



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Leslye Krutko
Larry D. Lisenbee

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: February 11, 2008

Approved

Christine J. Shippin

Date

2-21-08

COUNCIL DISTRICT: City-wide
SNI AREA: NA

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF FUNDING FOR "PROJECT HOPE", TWO EMPLOYMENT SERVICE PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY WORK2FUTURE, FOR HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS, EX-OFFENDERS, EMANCIPATED FOSTER YOUTH, DISPLACED VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AND THOSE AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council adopt a resolution:

- a) Approving a grant for \$300,000 to work2future from the Housing Trust Fund, out of the Housing and Homeless Projects Appropriation, for the implementation of Project Hope - homeless, a job training and employment preparation program for forty-two homeless and at-risk individuals.
- b) Approving a grant of \$300,000 to work2future from the Housing Trust Fund, out of the Housing and Homeless Projects Appropriation, for the implementation of Project Hope - ex-offenders, a job training and employment preparation program for twenty eight non-violent, ex-offenders recently released back into the community.
- c) Authorizing the Director of Housing to execute all necessary documents to implement the two programs.
- d) Authorizing the Director of Housing to accept up to \$320,000 in a Federal Appropriation grant from the Department of Labor to fund a new job training and employment preparation program.
- e) Approving the following Appropriation Ordinance and Funding Sources Resolution amendments in the Housing Trust Fund (Fund 440) for 2007-2008:

February 11, 2008

Subject: Approval of funding for the Project Hope employment programs for homeless and at-risk individuals

Page 2 of 5

1. Increase the estimate for Earned Revenue by \$320,000.
2. Establish an appropriation for the Job Training Grant Program in the amount of \$320,000.

OUTCOME

Approval of the proposed funding for the two Project Hope programs will contribute to the City's efforts to end chronic homelessness in ten years by proactively planning for the discharge of individuals from correctional institutions and the foster care system, and developing the employment skills of individuals who are currently homeless. Specifically, this project will provide job training and employment assistance to 70 individuals who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Through the provision of job training and employment assistance in concert with supportive services from local homeless service providers, Project Hope will foster the ability of participating individuals to become self-sufficient, gainfully employed, and ultimately stabilized in permanent housing.

BACKGROUND

On September 9, 2003, the Mayor and City Council adopted a ten-year strategy to end chronic homelessness in San José. The Strategy provided a number of recommendations designed to improve the current homeless services delivery system in order to both prevent homelessness and enable homeless households to successfully transition into stable housing. In 2007, the Blue Ribbon Commission, co-chaired by Mayor Chuck Reed and Supervisor Don Gage and comprised of local housing advocates, service providers, and community leaders developed a comprehensive plan to end homeless and solve the affordable housing crisis. Project Hope will contribute to these countywide efforts to end homelessness by addressing the gap in targeted employment services.

According to the 2007 San José Homeless Census, 4,309 of the City's residents were homeless. In addition, a survey of homeless residents in San José done in conjunction with the Census report provided insight on the employment barriers that homeless persons often face. According to the survey results, approximately 83% of those surveyed were currently unemployed and 25% of respondents cited the loss of a job or unemployment as the primary event or condition that led to their being homeless. Many of these individuals are faced with a number of barriers, including mental health issues, poor job skills, little education, no transportation, no support system, a history of domestic violence, a criminal record, or drug and alcohol addiction. These barriers are compounded when the individual is living on the streets. By utilizing the combined strengths and expertise of OED's work2future program, the Housing Department, and local service providers, Project Hope seeks to address the employment barriers that prevent these individuals from being permanently housed.

Work2future is an ideal agency to administer the Project Hope program because it is already established as an entity that is in the business of assisting at-risk populations such as veterans, low-income individuals, foster youth, displaced workers, ex-offenders, and those with limited or

no work history. Its One-Stop Centers provide a clearinghouse of local, State and federal employment assistance programs, in a centralized location.

In December 2007, the Housing Department's Housing Trust Fund received a payment of approximately \$4.5 million from the Sobrato Group, a California Limited Partnership, to partly satisfy its inclusionary housing requirement. The initial \$600,000 to fund Project HOPE is a direct result of the agreement with the Sobrato Group. Furthermore, the City of San Jose was recently awarded a federal appropriation of \$315,392 for a job training pilot program for homeless individuals. This appropriation will be used as a match for the proposed Housing Trust Fund grant.

ANALYSIS

In support of the City's efforts to end and prevent homelessness, it is recommended that \$600,000 from the Housing Trust Fund be granted to work2future for the implementation of the two Project Hope programs as described below. The proposed funding will create a groundbreaking seamless service delivery model implemented by work2future, in collaboration with the Housing Department, the Employment Development Department, and local homeless service providers. Specifically, funds will be used to provide outreach to jails, foster care agencies, and agencies serving victims of domestic violence and supply personalized training courses and individualized case management services to all program participants. The proposed Project Hope programs will provide employment services, job training and permanent housing to 28 non-violent ex-offenders, 30 homeless persons, and 12 youth recently emancipated from the foster care system.

The two year programs will provide participants with initial needs assessments, one-on-one intensive case management, hands-on referral services, job training and placement services, and supportive services such as housing searches and rental assistance. Homeless service providers will assist the participants to find housing solutions while they are in the program. Of those served, 100% will be provided work readiness training and 80% will be placed in a job training program, of whom at least 70% will be placed into jobs.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

Project Hope will be evaluated using performance measures that indicate whether program participants successfully enter the workforce, upgrade their skills to qualify them for jobs that pay a wage that allows them to be self-sufficient, and successfully transition into permanent housing. Work2future will follow up with participants one year after the client has completed the program.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

This memo will be posted to the City Council Agenda via the City's website; however, the recommendation action is under \$1 million and therefore will not require the additional notifications as shown below.

- Criterion 1:** Requires Council action on the use of public funds equal to \$1 million or greater.
(Required: Website Posting)
- Criterion 2:** Adoption of a new or revised policy that may have implications for public health, safety, quality of life, or financial/economic vitality of the City. (Required: E-mail and Website Posting)
- Criterion 3:** Consideration of proposed changes to service delivery, programs, staffing that may have impacts to community services and have been identified by staff, Council or a Community group that requires special outreach. (Required: E-mail, Website Posting, Community Meetings, Notice in appropriate newspapers)

COORDINATION

This report has been prepared in coordination with the Offices of the City Attorney, Economic Development, and Budget.

FISCAL/POLICY ALIGNMENT

Funding for this proposal is consistent with the Council approved Budget Strategy memo adopted on February 4, 2003, and with the 10-Year Homeless Strategy to End Chronic Homelessness, approved by the City Council on September 9, 2003.

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

There are no fiscal impacts to the City arising from this proposal. Funding is from the Housing Trust Fund (Fund 440).

BUDGET REFERENCE

Fund #	Appn #	Appn. Name	Total Appn	Amt. for Contract	2007-2008 Adopted Operating Budget Page	Last Budget Action (Date, Ord. No.)
440	2453	Housing and Homeless Projects	\$1,800,000	\$600,000	XI-41	10/16/2007, 28143

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

February 11, 2008

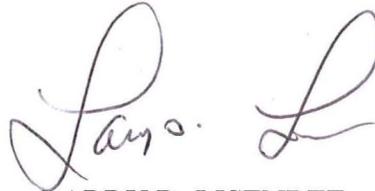
Subject: Approval of funding for the Project Hope employment programs for homeless and at-risk individuals
Page 5 of 5

CEQA

N/A (Not a project)

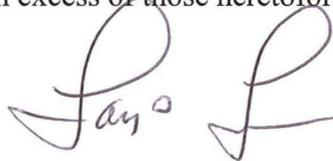


LESLYE KRUTKO
Director of Housing



LARRY D. LISENBEE
Budget Director

I hereby certify that there will be available for appropriation in the Housing Trust Housing Fund in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 monies in excess of those heretofore appropriated there from, said excess being at least \$320,000.



Larry D. Lisenbee
Budget Director

For questions please contact Leslye Krutko, Director of Housing, 535-3851.