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November 10, 2020

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: Adopt a Resolution Authorizing (1) the County to Accept State Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (ESG-CV) Round 2 Program Funding as the Administrative Entity for the Ventura County Continuum of Care in an Amount Not to Exceed \$5,000,000 and (2) the County Executive Officer (CEO) or Designee to Sign a Standard Agreement and Other Documents Required for Implementation and Administration of the ESG-CV Program with the State Department of Housing and Community Development, Subject to Review and Approval by County Counsel; Authorize the CEO or Designee to Adjust the Funding Allocations as Necessary for Final Grant Award; and Authorize the Auditor-Controller to Process the Necessary Budgetary Transactions to Establish Appropriations and Revenue. (Recommendation No. 3 Requires 4/5ths Vote.)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that your Board:

1. Adopt the attached resolution (Exhibit 1) authorizing (1) the County to accept ESG-CV Round 2 program funds as the Administrative Entity for the Ventura County Continuum of Care in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 and (2) the County Executive Officer (CEO) or designee to sign a Standard Agreement with the California Department of Housing and Community Development for ESG-CV Round 2 program funds, and any subsequent amendments or modifications thereto, as well as any other documents required for implementation of the program, subject to review and approval of such documents by County Counsel; and

2. Authorize the CEO or designee to adjust final allocations consistent with ESG-CV program requirements and review and ranking criteria to reflect final grant allocations.
3. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to process the budgetary transactions necessary to establish appropriations and revenue for the ESG-CV grant as follows (requires 4/5ths vote):

INCREASE UNIT 1230-1231	Services and Supplies	\$730,000
INCREASE UNIT 1230-1231	Intergovernmental Revenues	\$730,000

FISCAL/MANDATES IMPACT:

Fund S030

County Executive Office, Division 1230-1231 – HUD Emergency Shelter Grant

Mandatory:	No
Source of Funding:	HUD - Passed through the California Emergency Solutions Grant Program
Funding Match Required:	100% (Provided by subrecipients)
Impact on Other Departments:	Minimal

Summary of Revenues and Costs:

	<u>FY 2020-21</u>	<u>FY 2021-22</u>
Revenues	\$ 730,000	\$ 0
Costs:		
Direct	\$ 730,000	\$ 0
Indirect-Dept	\$0	\$ 0
Indirect-County CAP	\$0	\$ 0
Total Cost	<u>\$ 730,000</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
Net County Cost	\$0	\$ 0
Recovered Indirect Costs	\$0	\$ 0

FY 2020-21 Budget Projection for HUD Community Development Block Grant – Division 1230, Unit 1231				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Actual	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$ 1,136,500	\$ 1,136,500	\$ 1,136,500	\$ 0
Revenue	\$ 1,136,500	\$ 1,136,500	\$ 1,136,500	\$ 0
Net Cost	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0

DISCUSSION

The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) administers the State ESG-CV program with funding received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HCD has issued a second Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the ESG-CV program, referred to as ESG-CV Round 2. The federally allocated ESG-CV program funds are to be utilized to address the intersection between responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and homelessness. Locally, funds may be used for the following eligible activities related to crisis response including to: (1) engage homeless individuals and families experiencing homelessness; (2) improve the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families; (3) help operate these shelters; (4) provide essential services to shelter residents; and (5) rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families.

As the Administrative Entity (AE) for the Ventura County Continuum of Care, the County has been notified of a minimum second-round ESG-CV award of \$730,000, in addition to the first-round award of \$651,000. Historically HCD has advised applicants to include twice a minimum award in their resolutions but given the County's disproportionately low minimum round two allocation, and following consultation with HCD staff, we are appealing our round two ESG-CV funding and requesting the estimated \$5 million in unmet needs as reflected in the resolution. Staff will return to the Board to increase appropriations and revenue should HCD grant a larger second-round award.

The County, in its role as the AE, is responsible for awarding state ESG-CV funds locally to eligible service providers for eligible activities in the County's approved Continuum of Care Service Area. The ESG-CV Round 2 NOFA requires AEs to select qualified service providers through a process that meets the following requirements:

1. Follows a fair and open process that avoids conflicts of interest;
2. Follows the procurement requirements of 2 CFR § 200 and 24 CFR § 84;
3. Evaluates provider capacity and experience, including the ability to deliver services in non-entitlement areas;
4. Evaluates eligibility and quality of services, including adherence to "Core Practices" pursuant to section 8409 of the State ESG program regulations;
5. Utilizes data and considers community input to identify unmet needs;
6. Prioritizes providing services in a racially equitable manner as outlined in Section 1C of the ESG-CV Round 2 NOFA;
7. Prioritizes Emergency Shelter and Rapid Rehousing activities as outlined in section 1D of the ESG-CV Round 2 NOFA;
8. Considers project-level performance measures when evaluating proposals; and
9. Collaborates with the local Continuum of Care (CoC) tasked by HUD to administer funding to address homelessness.

The County's service as the AE allows our non-profit and community collaborators to secure funding from HCD that they would not otherwise be entitled to receive. In accordance with HCD requirements, a solicitation has been conducted for ESG-CV funds that will be passed through the County as the AE. The VC CoC Data Performance and Evaluation Committee will use a rank and review process to make recommendations to the VC CoC Board once the final ESG-CV grant funding allocation has been determined by HCD. It is requested that the CEO, or his designee, be authorized to adjust allocations consistent with review and ranking criteria to reflect final grant allocations.

This item has been reviewed by the offices of the Auditor-Controller and County Counsel. If you have questions regarding this item, please contact Christy Madden at 654-2679.

Sincerely,


Christy Madden
Sr. Deputy Executive Officer



M.P.
Michael Powers
County Executive Officer

Exhibit 1 – Resolution Authorizing County to Apply for and Receive ESG-CV Round 2 Grant Funds from HCD and to Authorize Execution of ESG-CV Round 2 Application, Standard Agreement and Other Required Documents