



## **CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA REPORT TO THE JOINT MEETING: GLENDALE CITY COUNCIL AND GLENDALE HOUSING AUTHORITY**

### **AGENDA ITEM**

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Report: Acceptance of grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the 2021 Continuum of Care Program; and City of Glendale's 2022 Homeless Point-in-Time Count.

- 1) Council Motion approving acceptance of grant funds in the amount of \$2,741,171 from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the 2021 Continuum of Care (CoC) program; and authorizing the City Manager or a designee to execute all agreements, certifications, and documents necessary to accept and implement the funds.
- 2) Council Motion to note and file the City of Glendale's 2022 Homeless Count and Survey Report.
- 3) Housing Authority Motion approving acceptance of grant funds in the amount of \$2,741,171 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the 2021 Continuum of Care (CoC) program; and authorizing the Executive Director or a designee to execute all agreements, certifications, and documents necessary to accept and implement the funds.
- 4) Housing Authority Motion to note and file the City of Glendale's 2022 Homeless Count and Survey Report.
- 5) Resolution of Appropriation to appropriate grant funds in the amount of \$2,741,171 received from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the 2021 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program.

### **COUNCIL ACTION**

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**Item Type:** Action Item

**Approved for** May 24, 2022 **calendar**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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Each year, the City of Glendale (City), on behalf of the Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC), submits a grant application to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for funding of existing and new CoC homeless services projects. This year, there were eight existing projects in the Glendale CoC that were eligible for renewal funding under the 2021 CoC competition. In addition, the City applied for a new CoC Planning

Project, one new Bonus Project to establish a Coordinated Entry System (CES) for homeless families, and a Bonus CES Project for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. On March 14, 2022, HUD announced the funding awards for 2021 program year totaling \$2,741,171 for the Glendale CoC. Funding was secured for all renewal projects and the CoC Planning Project; however, HUD did not award additional funding for the new projects submitted for consideration.

In addition, each year the City conducts a Homeless Point-in Time count. This year, the count was held on February 25, 2022, and a total of 225 homeless persons were surveyed in Glendale in comparison to 169 homeless persons in 2020. This represents a 33% increase in the homeless population in Glendale.

## **COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

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Housing

## **RECOMMENDATION**

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City Council:

It is recommended that City Council approve a Motion accepting the 2021 CoC Program funds and authorize a Resolution of Appropriation to appropriate a total of \$2,741,171; and authorize the City Manager or a designee to execute all agreements, certifications, and documents necessary to accept and implement the funds. It is further recommended that the Council approve a Motion to note and file the 2022 Homeless Point-in-Time count survey report.

Housing Authority:

It is recommended that the Housing Authority approve a Motion accepting the 2021 CoC Program funds in the amount of \$2,741,171; and authorize the Executive Director or a designee to execute all agreements, certifications, and documents necessary to accept and implement the funds. It is further recommended that the Housing Authority approve a Motion to note and file the 2022 Homeless Point-in-Time count survey report.

## **BACKGROUND**

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Each year, HUD releases a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)— now known as a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)— signifying the beginning of the CoC Program funding competition among approximately 450 CoCs. The 2021 CoC NOFO was released on August 18, 2021, making approximately \$2.6 billion of competitive grant funding available to homeless services organizations across the country for supportive services and housing programs for people experiencing homelessness.

During the 2021 NOFO competition, HUD sought projects that:

- End homelessness for all persons experiencing homelessness;
- Use a Housing First approach;
- Reduce unsheltered homelessness and reduce the criminalization of homelessness;

- Improve system performance;
- Partner with housing and health agencies, including to leverage and coordinate American Rescue Plan resources;
- Advance racial equity and addressing racial disparities in homelessness; and
- Engage people with lived experience of homelessness in decision-making

Since 1996, the City has applied for and received CoC Homeless Assistance funds through the CoC program competition on behalf of the CoC and the CoC Committee (formerly known as the Glendale Homeless Coalition). Through this annual competitive process, over \$58 million in federal funding from HUD has been awarded to the City exclusively for homeless programs. The City is one of only three cities in the County of Los Angeles that operates its own homeless CoC and is eligible to receive CoC funds directly from HUD. All other communities in the County fall under the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA).

The CoC Program (24 CFR Part 578) is designed to promote a community-wide commitment with the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, State, and local governments to quickly re-house homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.

On November 2, 2021, City Council and Housing Authority approved the CoC Program Priorities and the funding recommendations by the Glendale CoC Board, and authorized the submission of the Funding Application to HUD, as part of the 2021 CoC NOFO competition. This year, there were eight existing projects in Glendale CoC that were eligible for renewal funding under the 2021 competition. In addition, the City applied for a new CoC Planning Project, one new Bonus Project to establish a Coordinated Entry System (CES) for homeless families, and a Bonus CES Project for survivors of domestic violence, date violence, sexual assault, or stalking. The total funding requested for all projects, new/renewal was \$3,132,510.

On March 14, 2022, HUD announced \$2,741,171 in CoC competition awards for the Glendale CoC. (See Exhibit 1). Funding has been secured for all renewal projects totaling \$2,661,331 and the new CoC Planning Project totaling \$79,840. However, HUD did not award additional funding for the new projects submitted for consideration totaling \$391,339.

## **HOMELESS COUNT**

The City completed its 2022 Homeless Point-in-Time count on February 25, 2022. A total of 225 persons were counted as homeless according to the City's 2022 Homeless Count and Survey Report (Exhibit 2). The previous full homeless count and subpopulation survey conducted in January 2020 counted 169 homeless persons. A comparison of the last two counts reveals a 33% increase (56 more persons) counted in 2022. The count revealed a 30% increase in the sheltered population and a 37% increase in the

unsheltered population since 2020. Of the 225 homeless persons, 180 (80%) were adults over the age of 18. A total of 103 (46%) unduplicated unsheltered persons were counted and 122 (54%) sheltered persons. Of the 103 unsheltered, 4 (4%) were Transitional Age Youth (Ages 18-24) and 56 (54%) were adults within ages 25-54—and, notably, 39 (38%) were seniors over 55 years old. In addition, 9 (9%) of the unsheltered population were reportedly chronically homeless.

The sheltered count revealed 122 sheltered persons of which 52 (43%) were single adult households, while 70 (57%) were households comprised of adults and children. Fifty-six (46%) of our sheltered bed inventory were dedicated to domestic violence victims on the night of the count. The Hamilton Court Transitional Housing Program operated by Door of Hope, covered an extensive amount of beds, boasting 48 (39%) occupied beds during the count. In addition, 22 (18%) of the sheltered population were reportedly chronically homeless.

Since COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a noticeable upswing in the homeless population in Glendale compared to the last full homeless count in 2020. Despite a steady declining population rate of -0.70% from 2020 to 2022, the CoC continues to experience an increase in the sheltered and unsheltered population. According to the 2022 Unsheltered Homeless Count Surveys, 33 (59%) out of 56 respondents reported becoming homeless in Glendale. Furthermore, 4 persons (9%) out of 45 respondents reported a reduction or income loss caused by the pandemic, and 28 (53%) out of 53 unsheltered respondents reportedly became homeless for the first time in the City due to the following factors:

- **Loss of employment:** When surveyed, 13 out of 53 (25%) unsheltered respondents stated that losing their job was the primary factor that contributed to homelessness for the first time. Survey results show that homelessness and employment overlap for a significant portion of unsheltered people. Barriers to stable housing are primarily economic: either they lack employment, or they have a job and income but are not earning enough to make ends meet.
- **Unexpected illness.** 8 out of the 53 (15%) unsheltered persons surveyed reported becoming homeless as a result of “unexpected illness”. An acute physical condition may lead to homelessness; homelessness itself can exacerbate chronic medical conditions. A person can become chronically homeless the longer they remain unsheltered without stable housing, making it difficult to access treatment or preventive care.
- **Rent Increases:** After a few months of the rent moratorium and rent freeze during the peak of the pandemic, rent prices regressed back to being at record highs across the state; concurrently, rental vacancy rates have bottomed out statewide. In contrast, income growth has not kept pace as rents have grown, making the rental market increasingly unaffordable. The 2022 count revealed a total of 7 out of 53 (13%) unsheltered respondents stated that they “could not afford rent increase”.

**Table 2: Comparison of 2020 and 2022 Homeless Counts**

<b>Homeless Point-In-Time Count</b>	<b>Sheltered</b>	<b>Unsheltered</b>	<b>Total</b>
2020	94	75	169
2022	122	103	225
<b>Difference:</b>	<b>+30%</b>	<b>+37%</b>	<b>+33%</b>

### **ANALYSIS**

The City Council and the Housing Authority approved the CoC Program Priorities and funding recommendations by the Glendale CoC Board on November 2, 2021, and authorized the submission of the 2021 CoC Funding Application to HUD. A total of \$2,741,171 was awarded to the Glendale CoC for all existing projects and the new CoC Planning Project. In addition, the 2022 Homeless Point-in-Time count revealed an increase of the homeless population by 33% since 2020. The sheltered population increased by 30% and the unsheltered population by 37%.

### **STAKEHOLDERS/OUTREACH**

After approval from the City Council/Housing Authority, Agencies will be informed of formal approval and will be instructed to prepare communication materials regarding projects and expected services. Agencies will be expected to communicate regarding available services via Internet, radio spots, local newspapers and through periodic virtual and in-person meetings with community groups and stakeholders.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

HUD has awarded the Glendale CoC a total of \$2,741,171 for the 2021 CoC Program, which was not included as a part of the FY 2021-22 budget. Therefore, staff is requesting for an appropriation of \$2,741,171 from grant revenue. The appropriation request is outlined below:

<b>Requesting Appropriation</b>			
<b>Amount</b>	<b>From (Account String)</b>	<b>To (Account String)</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
\$282,218	31240-2040-CSP-0020 CSP00798AG	41100-2040-CSP-0020 CSP00798AG	Continuum of Care Grant Fund
\$34,300	31240-2040-CSP-0020 CSP00798AG	41300-2040-CSP-0020 CSP00798AG	Continuum of Care Grant Fund
\$2,424,653	31240-2040-CSP-0020 CSP00798AG	43112-2040-CSP-0020 CSP00798AG	Continuum of Care Grant Fund

All sub-recipients and City programs funded by the CoC grant must provide 25% match (cash or in-kind).

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW (CEQA/NEPA)**

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Because no possibility exists that the activity in question (the City's and Housing Authority's (1) accepting HUD funding, and (2) noting/filing a report on the 2022 Homeless Count and Survey Report) may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA review under the common sense exemption set forth in 14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15061(b)(3).

## **CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE**

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The names and business addresses of the members of the board of directors, the chairperson, CEO, COO, CFO, Subcontractors and any person or entity with more than 10% interest in the company proposed for contract in this Agenda Item Report are attached in Exhibit 2, in accordance with the City Campaign Finance Ordinance No. 5744.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

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### **City Council:**

Alternative 1: The Council may accept staff's recommendation to adopt:

- 1) Council Motion accepting grant funds in the amount of \$2,741,171 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the 2021 Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) Program; and authorizing the City Manager or a designee to execute all agreements, certifications, and documents necessary to accept and implement funds.
- 2) Council Motion to note and file the City of Glendale's 2022 Homeless Count and Survey Report.
- 3) Resolution of Appropriation to appropriate grant funds in the amount of \$2,741,171 from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the 2021 Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) Program.

Alternative 2: The Council may choose not to accept staff's recommendation to adopt the above motions and Resolution of Appropriation.

Alternative 3: The Council may consider any other alternative not proposed by staff.

### **Housing Authority:**

Alternative 1: The Housing Authority may accept staff's recommendation to adopt:

- 1) Housing Authority Motion accepting grant funds in the amount of \$2,741,171 from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the 2021 Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) program; and authorize the Executive Director or a designee to execute all agreements, certifications, and documents necessary to accept and implement the funds.
- 2) Housing Authority Motion to note and file the City of Glendale's 2022 Homeless Count and Survey Report.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION**

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**Prepared by:**

Arsine Isayan, Homeless Programs Manager

**Approved by:**

Roubik R. Golanian, P.E., City Manager

## **EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS**

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Exhibit 1 - 2021 CoC Funding Awards

Exhibit 2 - Campaign Finance Disclosure

Exhibit 3 - 2022 Homeless Count Report