

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution authorizing an assignment of the City's rights to the 2016 Housing Trust Fund grant awarded to the City by the Washington State Department of Commerce to the Congregations for the Homeless for the design and construction of an emergency shelter for homeless men in Bellevue in the amount of \$1,400,000. The assignment shall be substantially in the form of the assignment in the Council Library.

Mac Cummins, Director, 452-6191

Lindsay Masters, ARCH Executive Manager, 861-3677

Community Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2016, the Legislature appropriated \$1,400,000 to support a State Housing Trust Fund grant to the City for the design and construction of an emergency shelter for homeless men in Bellevue. This grant was intended to support the development of a year-round, emergency men's shelter by Congregations for the Homeless (CFH).

As the grant recipient, the City is responsible for contracting with the Department of Commerce (to undertake the project directly) or to subcontract with CFH. However, to expedite the design and construction of the shelter, the Department will allow the City to assign the grant to CFH. An assignment would allow the Department to contract directly with CFH, which is pragmatic as CFH is undertaking the actual development of the shelter.

An assignment would transfer all of the City's interest in the Housing Trust Fund grant to CFH.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9950

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

CFH is an experienced operator with a 27-year history of serving homeless men, and it is currently serving approximately 1,700 homeless individuals each year. CFH has been working for several years to create a permanent, year-round emergency shelter for homeless men on the Eastside.

In 2015, and in support of its efforts, the City and other ARCH members awarded \$700,000 to CFH to create this emergency men's shelter. A portion of these funds was advanced to support pre-development activities.

In 2016, the Legislature appropriated \$1,400,000 to support a grant award to the City for the design and construction of an emergency shelter for homeless men in Bellevue. This award was intended to support the permanent shelter being developed by CFH.

In 2018, the City awarded \$585,000 in funding to support the operations at the temporary shelter, while CFH worked to site and develop the permanent shelter.

In 2019, having secured site control on a 10+ acre property owned by King County, CFH submitted new funding applications to ARCH, King County, and the State to complete development.

In 2020, an additional \$500,000 was awarded by ARCH members, including Bellevue. Additional fundraising efforts have been ongoing, while a larger master development was assembled to facilitate acquisition of the property.

ARCH, King County, and the Department of Commerce have begun work on financing documents to facilitate the allocation of funds for development of the shelter. In order to expedite application of the \$1,400,000 grant to the shelter's development and construction, the City could assign the grant to CFH and the resulting funding agreement would be directly between CFH and Commerce.

Alternatively, the City could contract with Commerce and subcontract with CFH. However, this could create additional delays in the allocation of funds. Moreover, the City would likely incur other administrative obligations as a result of any contract or subcontract: e.g. monitoring and reporting.

Staff recommends the City assign its rights under the grant to CFH, allowing a contract for the grant to occur directly between Commerce and CFH, since CFH is the entity that will develop, own, and operate the shelter.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Comprehensive Plan: Assigning this award is consistent with Comprehensive Plan policies HO-39, HS-8, and HS-18 that:

- Collaborate with other jurisdictions and social service organizations to assure availability of emergency shelters and day centers that address homelessness.
- Make Bellevue a welcoming, safe and just community marked by fairness and equity provided to those disproportionately affected by poverty, discrimination and victimization.
- Support an intentional local community response to homelessness with housing and supportive services provided to families, youth and single adults.

Bellevue Diversity Advantage Plan: Assigning this award is consistent with the recommended actions in the Diversity Advantage Plan, which calls for supporting the establishment of a year-round homeless shelter on the Eastside.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with assigning the grant contract and doing so avoids additional administrative costs associated with contracting with the State and then subcontracting with CFH.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing an assignment of the City's rights to the 2016 Housing Trust Fund grant awarded to the City by the Washington State Department of Commerce to the Congregations for the Homeless for the design and construction of an emergency shelter for homeless men in Bellevue in the amount of \$1,400,000. The assignment shall be substantially in the form of the assignment in the Council Library.

2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

Proposed Resolution No. 9950

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

Assignment of Grant