

MEMORANDUM

3

DATE: DECEMBER 16, 2010 CT1090
100053

TO: CRA/LA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FROM: CHRISTINE ESSEL, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

STAFF: DAVID RICCITIELLO, REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
LILLIAN BURKENHEIM, PROJECT MANAGER
DAVE NEUBECKER, ASSISTANT PROJECT MANAGER

SUBJECT: **The Midnight Mission.** Conditional Grant Agreement not to exceed \$90,000 for a courtyard case management pilot program to be operated by The Midnight Mission, located at 601 S. San Pedro Street in the City Center Redevelopment Project Area
DOWNTOWN REGION (CD 9)

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the CRA/LA Board of Commissioners, subject to City Council approval, authorize the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or designee to execute a Conditional Grant Agreement with The Midnight Mission not to exceed \$90,000 of City Center Low and Moderate Income Housing Funds in Budget Line Item Affordable Housing (Objective CT1090) for the courtyard case management pilot program to place people into appropriate affordable housing.

SUMMARY

The Midnight Mission ("TMM"), a nonprofit social services provider located at 601 S. San Pedro Street, is requesting a conditional grant in the amount of \$90,000 to conduct a one-year pilot program aimed at reducing homelessness in the Central City East district by getting individuals and families that regularly spend the night in the TMM outdoor courtyard successfully placed in appropriate housing. By using pro-active outreach, TMM expects this pilot program will provide comprehensive intake and case management services to at least 50 homeless individuals or families, with 50% projected to be placed in transitional or permanent housing during the one-year period.

The purpose of the pilot program is to determine whether this type of pro-active provision of comprehensive services would be an effective, cost-efficient way to identify homeless persons with low to moderate service needs and guide them into transitional or permanent housing that eventually leads to independence and self-sufficiency. The recommended actions will enable TMM to implement this pilot program for a one-year period. Progress will be tracked essentially from day one, so if initial results are positive, TMM will utilize that information to seek future funding from other public sector sources, nonprofit foundations, private corporations and individual donors to extend and expand this pilot program.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS

Initial Action.

DISCUSSION & BACKGROUND

Location

In April 2005, TMM moved into a new four-story, 90,000 square foot facility on a 1.4-acre site located at 601 S. San Pedro St., within the Central City East subarea of the City Center Redevelopment Project Area.

Grant Recipient

TMM is an independent social service agency that offers homeless people a bridge to self-sufficiency through counseling, education, training and job placement. Founded in 1914 and incorporated as a California nonprofit public benefit corporation in 1922, TMM is one of the oldest continuously operating social service organizations and the largest non-religious private social service provider in the greater Los Angeles region. During the Great Depression, TMM was designated "California Emergency Relief Station No. 1" by the federal government. Larry Adamson has served as President and CEO since 1998; Mr. Adamson is just the fourth executive manager in TMM's 96-year history.

Selection Process

This pilot program was initiated by TMM in association with the Courtyard Committee of the Los Angeles Central Providers Collaborative ("LACPC"), a nonprofit organization comprised of the largest direct service providers in the Downtown area. The other members of the LACPC Courtyard Committee are the Union Rescue Mission, Los Angeles Mission, Downtown Drop-In Center and St. Vincent de Paul.

Description and Project Context

In the Central City East section of Downtown Los Angeles, numerous homeless individuals and families have been regularly taking refuge overnight within the large outdoor courtyards at TMM, Union Rescue Mission, Los Angeles Mission, Downtown Drop-In Center and St. Vincent de Paul. Based on observation and anecdotal evidence, the service providers believe that many of these homeless persons have low or moderate service needs. By not seeking shelter indoors, most have avoided the usual intake process and subsequent case management services.

Through pro-active outreach, this pilot program will provide individuals and families with comprehensive intake and evaluation of mental health and personal health in a confidential office setting once rapport has been established by TMM staff. In addition, they will be provided designated temporary beds in TMM's Safe Sleep Program for guaranteed nightly safe shelter on an immediate basis, with eventual placement in transitional or permanent housing based on the particular needs of that individual/family. Daytime space will be provided for interaction with Case Management in order to develop and implement a Transition Care Plan, which will include 30-day short term services and 6-month long term assistance. As appropriate, onsite TMM support will include Case Management referrals and follow-up, computer training, employment assessment, counseling, and job placement consultation and follow-up.

The \$90,000 Grant will fund the case management staff salaries and benefits, equivalent to one full-time position and one half-time position, as well as related administrative and supportive costs, such as directly escorting individuals to collaborative agencies and service providers,

providing assistance in meeting documentation and eligibility requirements for housing, or moving expenses.

Community Benefits

The proposed project is intended to reduce homelessness by providing ongoing case management services including placement in emergency or transitional housing based on their needs and on a path towards independence and self-sufficiency.

SOURCE OF FUNDS

City Center Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund.

PROGRAM AND BUDGET IMPACT

The proposed action is consistent with the FY2011 City Center Budget and Work Program. Following approval of this program, \$4,299,300 or \$4,764,300 will remain for the Affordable Housing budget category.

There is no fiscal impact on the City's General Fund as a result of the recommended action.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The recommended action does not constitute a "Project" as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA").

AUTHORITY GRANTED TO CEO OR DESIGNEE

If the Conditional Grant Agreement is approved, the CRA/LA Chief Executive Officer or designee would be authorized to take such actions as may be necessary to carry out the Agreement, including, but not limited to, executing the CRA/LA Conditional Grant Documents.

Christine Essel
Chief Executive Officer

By:

Calvin E. Hollis
Chief Operating Officer
Real Estate and Economic Development

There is no conflict of interest known to me that exists with regard to any CRA/LA officer or employee concerning this action.

Attachment A: Location/Site Map