

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
HSOC HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 6th 2021, 2pm-3:30pm
Zoom Call**

MEMBERS PRESENT		MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF & GUESTS
Anne Robin Anne Wyatt Cara Vereschagin Joanna Balsamo-Lillien Kathy McClenathen Scott Smith		Ken Triguero Marianne Kennedy Mark Lamore	Abby Lassen George Solis Laurel Weir Leon Shordon Molly Kern Russ Francis Steve Martin Susan Warren Tom Sherman
AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION		CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS
1. Call to Order and Introductions of Guests	Scott called the meeting to order at 2pm.		
2. Public Comment	<p>Anne Wyatt reported that Smart Share Housing Solutions is in the process of launching an ADU (Accessory Dwelling Unit) program in the county. They are expanding from looking only at Tiny Houses on Wheels, to ADUs in general, particularly affordable ADUs and garage conversions. For more information, see https://www.smartsharehousingsolutions.org/adu-consulting/</p> <p>Susan reported on the proposed drug and alcohol treatment center at the Roadway Inn at Morro Bay, which has received a lot of negative feedback from the community. The Morro Bay Planning Commission is meeting later in April to discuss the proposed project, so Susan invited individuals and nonprofits who believe this would be a good resource to submit positive feedback. Anne Robin questioned whether the provider agency has met the regulations they would need to meet in order to run a licensed facility. Susan and Anne Robin agreed to discuss the matter</p>		

	outside of this meeting as the item had not been agendaized.	
3. Consent: Approval of Minutes		Kathy made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Cara. The motion passed with all in favor except for Anne Wyatt who abstained.
4. Action/Information/Discussion		
4.1 Discussion Item: Emergency Rental Assistance Program	<p>Laurel reported that the ERAP (Emergency Rental Assistance Program) has now launched. 5CHC (5Cities Homeless Coalition) and the Salvation Army are assisting the State with the administration of the program. The agencies are helping applicants to understand what information they will need, how to obtain this information, and how to navigate the application process. The program is intended for people on low incomes who are behind on rent. The program involves the landlord agreeing to forgive 20% of back rent owed, to then receive 80% of back rent from the State. Tenants can be assisted even if the landlord chooses not to participate in the program. Further information can be found on the County's HSOC web page, along with links to the program.</p> <p>Abby clarified that the State is prioritizing applicants who are at 50% or below of Area Median Income, and are aiming for ten days turnaround time after the application is made by both tenant and landlord. The State anticipates receiving more money for this program through the summer.</p>	
4.2 Discussion Item: CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security) Act Grants Update	George reported that funding for Round 1 of the ESG-CV (Emergency Solutions Grant – Coronavirus) program has been awarded and distributed to agencies. In total, this is funding of around \$467,000, and is funding activities including emergency shelter, rapid rehousing and street outreach. The funding was due to also fund homelessness prevention, but the State directed communities to pause this due to the	

	<p>ERAP program and eviction moratorium, so this portion may be reallocated.</p> <p>For Round 2 of ESG-CV funding, which will be worth around \$2.5 million, the County has received the award letter, but has not yet received the standard agreement from the State.</p> <p>Laurel proposed asking ESG subrecipients to attend the next Housing Committee meeting and provide updates on their work through this grant program.</p>	
<p>4.3 Discussion Item: Upcoming State and Federal Grants for Housing for Homeless Persons and Persons At-Risk</p>	<p>Laurel shared an overview of upcoming grant opportunities, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Rescue Plan Act, enacted March 11th 2021. This Act sets aside \$1 billion nationwide for the HOME program. Approximately \$3 million is expected for SLO County. The timeline is not clear at this point. • Section 811 Project Rental Assistance – project based housing vouchers for people with disabilities. There is no official application deadline yet. • HHAP (Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program) Round 1: the local RFP (Request for Proposals) will be released in April 2021. Eligible activities will include capital projects for permanent housing, operating subsidies and reserves, supportive services for permanent supportive housing, and delivery of permanent housing and innovative solutions (including hotel and motel conversions). \$3 million will be available for local applications. 8% of the total amount is set aside for projects serving homeless youth. HSOC has voted to prioritize bringing HEAP (Homeless Emergency Aid Program) projects to completion, as well as creating a project on the North Coast. • Project Homekey Round 2: this was included in the Governor's budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22. This would provide funding for acquisition and conversion of motels and other properties into permanent housing. It is not clear yet if awards will be 	

	<p>competitive or formula-based.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Place Like Home (NPLH): this State grant provides loans for the development of permanent housing for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and in need of mental health services. The NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) is anticipated in October 2021. Counties are eligible and can apply with housing development sponsors. Anne Robin clarified that in previous years, the RFP for this funding has been released prior to the NOFA, with awareness that there may be adjustments, so the local RFP should be released within the next couple of months. • Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention Program Round 6: draft guidelines for this round were released in March 2021. This program provides funding for acquisition, construction, and conversion of properties for affordable housing or transitional housing. <p>Future potential opportunities include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youthbuild – the next round is likely to take place next winter. This program provides funding to train youth in construction, specifically for affordable housing projects. • In the federal infrastructure stimulus Bill currently being considered, there may be supplemental funding for CDBG (Community Development Block Grants). This is competitive public housing funding to remove certain zoning barriers to affordable housing. 	
4.3.1 Discussion Item: Local Opportunities and Challenges		
4.4 Discussion Item: County Department of Planning and Building Upcoming Action Plan	<p>Laurel reported that the Department of Planning & Building will be taking their Action Plan update to the Board of Supervisors on April 20th. This includes recommendations for ESG, CDBG, HOME and General</p>	

Update to the Board of Supervisors	Fund Support homelessness grants. HSOC has previously voted to approve these recommendations.	
5. Future Discussion Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morro Bay drug and alcohol treatment center (see item 2: Public comment) • ESG activities (see item 4.2: CARES Act Grants Update) • ADUs and plans for affordable housing – Anne Wyatt and Cara/SLO City • SLO City Inclusionary Housing Program – to be discussed at a future meeting (most likely June-July) 	
6. Next Meeting Date: May 4, 2021		
7. Adjournment	Scott adjourned the meeting at 3:25pm.	