

HOUSING

MOTION

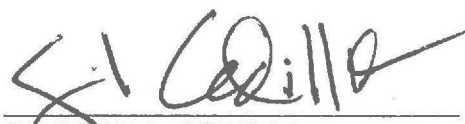
On July 16, 2020, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) released a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) announcing the availability of approximately \$600 million for the Homekey Program (Homekey). This program aims to build on the success of Project Roomkey by facilitating the acquisition of properties for interim and permanent housing for individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness and who are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is imperative that the City apply for Homekey funding to further the development of housing for populations whose precarious housing situation has been further exacerbated by the Coronavirus pandemic.

Homekey makes available approximately \$550 million from Coronavirus Relief Funding (CRF) received by the State for project acquisition, rehabilitation, master leasing, and the purchase of affordability covenants; and \$50 million in State General Fund (GF) for operating subsidies. Of these amounts, approximately \$162 million in CRF and \$15 million in GF is prioritized for applicants from the County of Los Angeles. On July 22, HCD opened the Homekey application period. As part of the application process, funding is reserved for certain geographic areas through August 13, 2020. HCD will continue to accept applications through September 29, 2020 without geographic consideration but it is critical that the City apply by August 13th to leverage the local funding reservation.

HCD will prioritize Homekey funding for permanent housing that can be occupied within 90 days and interim housing that leads to permanent housing or placements. Project Roomkey hotels and motels are eligible for acquisition, but eligibility also extends to other properties that can quickly be converted to housing. Homekey aims to expeditiously fund projects that can immediately make an impact. City staff should research Homekey funding opportunities and promptly report with a plan to position the City for successful funding applications.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the City Administrative Officer and the Chief Legislative Analyst to report with the status of the Homekey Program, identify eligible projects for which the City can apply, identify sources for the required matching funds, and explore partnerships with other governmental entities and mission based organizations that can leverage the City's capacity to secure funding.

PRESENTED BY:


GILBERT A. CEDILLO
Councilmember, 1st District

SECONDED BY:




JUL 29 2020

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