



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: APRIL 9, 2019

FROM: OFFICE OF HOMELESS SOLUTIONS WARDS: ALL

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2018-2019 TO ALLOCATE \$200,000 OF HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT FUNDS TOWARD THE TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

ISSUE:

Approve an amendment to the City of Riverside United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Annual Action Plan for Program Year 2018-2019 to allocate \$200,000 of HOME Investment Partnerships Program affordable housing project funds towards the Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council:

1. Approve an amendment to the City of Riverside’s United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Annual Action Plan for Program Year 2018-2019 to allocate \$200,000 of HOME Program affordable housing project funds towards the Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program; and
2. Authorize a funds transfer in the amount of \$200,000 from the HOME Investment Partnerships Unprogrammed Funds Account Number 2835200-453001 to the Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program Account Number 2835200-454302.

BACKGROUND:

The City receives an annual allocation of HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program funds which can be used to provide homebuyer or rehabilitation financing assistance to eligible homeowners and new homebuyers; build or rehabilitate housing for rent or ownership including site acquisition or improvement; demolish dilapidated housing to make way for HOME-assisted development; pay costs of relocation expenses; and provide Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA).

The TBRA Program takes a Housing First approach that rests on the belief that helping people obtain and sustain permanent affordable housing should be the first step in helping individuals exit life from the street. The TBRA program provides assistance to individual households to help them afford the housing costs of market-rate units. The level of TBRA Program subsidy varies per individual households; the level of subsidy is based upon the income of the household, the particular unit the household selects, and the local rent standard. The City's TBRA Program provides payments to make up the difference between the amounts a household can afford to pay for housing and the local rent standards. TBRA funds may also be used to pay for costs associated with housing, such as security and utility deposits.

DISCUSSION:

In 2018-2019, the City allocated \$200,000 of HOME Program funds toward the TBRA Program. These funds were expended to assist 15 formerly homeless individuals. Staff is requesting an additional \$200,000 of HOME program funds to provide more housing opportunities for at least 15 homeless individuals in the City of Riverside. The additional \$200,000 will come from the HOME affordable housing project fund, which is used for a variety of eligible affordable housing activities, including rental assistance. The transfer of these funds to the TBRA Program is consistent with the intended use of the HOME Program funds and will further assist in achieving the goal of ending chronic homelessness in the City by providing temporary affordable housing coupled with case management to assist clients with achieving self-sufficiency.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Sufficient funding in the amount of \$200,000 is available in the HOME Investment Partnerships Program Unprogrammed Funds Account Number 2835200-453001 and will be transferred to the Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program Account Number 2835200-454302.

Prepared by:	Emilio Ramirez, Director of Office of Homeless Solutions
Certified as to availability of funds:	Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer
Approved by:	Moises Lopez, Deputy City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney