

Agenda Item IV: Department Updates

Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council meeting April 9, 2019

1. Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES):

- Newly Established Housing Unit: CalOES' Office of Grants Management created a new Housing Unit in January 2019. This new unit administers the "Specialized Emergency Housing" and "Transitional Housing" Programs to 103 Subrecipients.

2. California Department of Transportation (Cal Trans):

- Partnering with the City of Oakland to open another "Community Cabins" site near the McArthur Maze. The City is close to completing its plans to submit an Encroachment Permit and Caltrans should be signing the Airspace Lease shortly. We are targeting completing all items by April 1. We are also working with Oakland on an additional site near Jack London Square (5th and Madison on I 880) that the City is targeting for a summer opening.
- Partnering with the City of San Francisco on a proposed "Navigation Center" at a location on Evans Street in the southern part of the city. It is a joint Airspace Lease and Excess Land parcel. Caltrans has fast-tracked the excess land disposal process and plans to sell the property to the City at fair market value and then lease the Airspace under the \$1.00 Emergency Shelter and Feeding legislation. We are targeting completing the sale and lease this fall.
- Partnering with the City of San Jose regarding a pilot project to bring services to existing encampments within Caltrans Right of Way. The city is proposing to bring porta-potty facilities, garbage collection, and social services to some of the hot-spot encampments. One proposed location is at the 87/280 interchange. This is still in the brain-storming stage and Right of Way is coordinating with the mayor's office for next steps. Caltrans continues to make progress on the City's "Transitional Housing" site at the 101/280 IC.
- Caltrans also is meeting with the Downtown Streets Team in Marin County. We are working on a Co-op with the county to subcontract with them for a crew in Marin. They work with homeless to provide social services and can put together work crews to clean up homeless encampment trash and debris as well as litter on the roadside. We have made similar efforts in San Jose with the Downtown Streets Team: that effort was somewhat less successful but at one point we were able to offer two people jobs. It did not come to fruition, but we were close.
- The Maze Community Cabins will be similar to other sites in Oakland. The City is moving the cabins from the first location at 7th and Brush Street (it was a success and has since closed) to an area on Wood Street next to the Granite Expo store. In addition to cabins, the site will have

an area along Wood street for RV parking. We are shooting for Lease signing and start of construction in April. The cabin sites have an expected duration of 18 months. The cabins will be gone by the time we are ready to go to construction on the Maze project. The area is outlined in red on the attached map.

3. Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD):

No Place Like Home Program

- On March 26, HCD informed every California county that they are eligible for funding from HCD's *Non-Competitive* Allocation NOFA of \$190 M, provided they each submit an allocation acceptance form no later than August 15.
- As of January 30, the deadline for applications for *competitive* funds, HCD received 45 applications requesting approximately \$194 M. HCD anticipates awarding these funds in June 2019.
- HCD anticipates releasing a second NOFA of competitive funds in September 2019.

California Emergency Solutions Act

- On March 21, HCD released the second NOFA for approximately \$29 M in competitive funds. Applications are due on May 6, 2019 and HCD anticipates awarding the funds in July 2019.

Supportive Housing Multifamily Housing Program

- Last October, HCD released a NOFA for \$77 M, with an application of deadline was February 8, 2019. HCD received 20 applications requesting approximately \$142 M. HCD anticipates announcing awards in June 2019.

Emergency Solutions Grant Program

- On March 14, HCD awarded approximately \$11 M in 2018 ESG funds.
- On March 29, HCD released two ESG NOFAs for approximately \$6 M for the CoC Allocation and approximately \$5 M for the Balance of State Allocation. Applications will be due by May 30, 2019 and HCD anticipates announcing awards in September 2019.

Technical Assistance on Homelessness Programs

- In January 2019, HCD announced the availability of technical assistance to help counties and CoCs improve the delivery of homelessness programs.
- HCD is now receiving and evaluating local jurisdictions' requests for technical assistance, then deploying consultants to provide assistance tailored to each jurisdiction's unique challenges, at no cost to the jurisdiction.
- So far, HCD is currently assisting 23 jurisdictions in the following categories:
 - 11 with capacity-building,
 - 6 with applying Housing First principles, and

- 6 with providing housing stability.

Butte County: Disaster Recovery

- In March 2019, HCD deployed a technical assistance team to assist Butte County with their disaster recovery efforts.
- HCD's technical assistance team developed an engagement strategy and is maintaining an embedded presence in Butte to assist.

4. Department of Social Services (CDSS):

Home Safe:

- The Home Safe program is a \$15 million program with a dollar-for-dollar county match, which is intended to serve Adult Protective Services (APS) clients that are homeless or at risk of homelessness due to elder or dependent adult abuse, neglect or financial exploitation. Home Safe will provide homelessness prevention and short-term housing interventions to support safety and housing stability for APS clients.
- CDSS hosted a two-day learning forum in March 2019 for all (25) counties in receipt of Home Safe funding, with sessions facilitated by internal and external housing experts on topics such as Housing First and prevention best practices. Home Safe counties are expected to begin accepting client referrals no later than July 1st, 2019.

Technical Assistance:

- CDSS hosted its first of a multi-part Housing First webinar series in partnership with the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) on March 5th for our funded programs and their local partners; each webinar will build on the concepts of the last and progressively diving deeper into the operationalization of the core components of Housing First at locally. The next webinar, *A System Response to Homelessness Using a Housing First Approach*, will take place on April 25th.

5. Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR):

An analysis of 2018 Point-In-Time counts in Los Angeles, San Diego and Orange counties found that 32% of homeless individuals reported having both a mental health issue and former incarceration. The Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health (CCJBH), housed within the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), as part of its 2018 Annual Legislative Report, recently recognized that California's homelessness and housing crisis has undermined the success of community alternatives to incarceration for people with behavioral health challenges. From chronic homelessness to housing insecurity, the lack of safe and affordable housing impacts the delivery of much needed mental health and substance use treatment services. From individuals who slipped into incarceration due to crimes of poverty, substance use and untreated mental illness to those whose reentry is compromised because there is no place to call home, the deficiency of housing options is putting individuals at great risk of health care emergencies, recidivism or more likely both.

The report outlines specific strategies that can be employed at the local, state and federal levels to better serve and support individuals with substance use and mental health disorders who are justice-involved and need access to appropriate housing and housing-related services. Below is one example of a recommendation that can be addressed with action at the local, state and federal levels to help address the unique needs of the justice-involved individuals with behavioral health challenges.

- Recommendation One: Prioritize Housing for the Most Vulnerable and the Most in Need
 - Local Action: Local Coordinated Entry Systems (CES) are used to assess strengths and needs quickly. Jails and prisons can explore if and how individuals exiting can be entered into CES prior to release. Partners included in CES should widely vary and include criminal justice.
 - State Action: CCJBH can identify and disseminate best practices in the application of CES with criminal justice referral entities.
 - Federal Action: USICH can work with HUD to update the definition of chronic homelessness to include individuals exiting an institution (including jails, prisons and state hospitals) to homelessness after 90 days and with a history of homelessness.

For more information and to review the entire 2018 report visit: <https://sites.cdcr.ca.gov/ccjbh/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2019/01/2018-CCJBH-17th-Annual-Legislative-Report-12-31-18.pdf>



March 25, 2019

--- User drawn lines

▨ Freeway

Agreements

▨ Cooperative

■ Maintenance

□ Assessor Parcels (Last update Jan 2019)

1:2,257

