

# Pasadena CoC Board Meeting Minutes

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## MINUTES

Monday March 21, 2022

**Present:** **Will Watts**, Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles; **Cory Patterson**, Lived Experience Advisory Panel (LEAP); **Sieglinde von Deffner**, Housing for Health; **Jhoana Hirasuna**, Shepherds Pantry; **Tammy Marashlian**, United Way of Greater Los Angeles; **Dan Davidson**, Rosebud Coffee; **Jennifer O'Reilly-Jones**, City of Pasadena; **Diana Trejo**, City of Pasadena; **Daniel Cole**, City of Pasadena

**Absent:** **Margaret Martinez**, ChapCare

## Welcome

- **Guest Presenters:** **Bill Huang**, Department of Housing Director and **Whitney Harrison**, Public Health Social and Mental Health Division Manager

## SB 1177 LETTER OF SUPPORT

Bill Huang gave a short overview of SB 1177 prior to his request for a letter of support from the Board. Senator Portantino will be introducing SB 1177, which would create a Regional Housing Trust Fund between Pasadena, Glendale and Burbank to support new housing projects, buy new land or units, and move/or projects already in the pipeline through. This bill will be modeled after the Orange County and San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust Funds. Senator Portantino, who is currently the Chair of the Appropriations committee on the Senate, is comfortable asking for \$35 million. Assembly member Holden, who is also Chair of the Appropriations Committee on the Assembly side, is also in support.

Bill noted that Pasadena has around 2,000 units in the affordable housing pipeline and around 500 in production which include a wide variety of projects, not just PSH. The City has spent close to all its capital money on these projects, so currently there is not enough funding available to buy sites or add new projects in the pipeline. Lack of enough local money to commit to projects can cause them to languish in the pipeline before being able to move through. Thus, a Regional Housing Trust fund between Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena is being proposed. Whatever share of funding that Pasadena receives would be leveraged with other funding sources to move projects forward and secure new opportunities.

SB 1177 is headed to the Governance and Finance committee on the 31<sup>st</sup> of this month and then it will go to the Housing Committee. Bill advised that he does not foresee any challenges with this being passed in response to Tammy's question. Similar proposals have all passed unanimously because there is no funding attached to them. Will asked how soon Pasadena would actually realize the benefits of this, to which Bill responded approval, if it were to happen, would take place in the next few months and then the money would be available at the start of the Fiscal Year. The three cities would then need to work together to determine how the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) will operate.

Jenni highlighted the huge overlap between affordable housing and PSH in Pasadena. The City committed affordable housing dollars to The Salvation Army Hope Center and Heritage Square South projects, which also have a specified number of PSH units attached to them. Projects funded through the Regional Housing Trust Fund could include those that directly support people exiting homelessness, but nevertheless the City recognizes the importance of affordable housing in preventing homelessness. Will asked why the CoC is supporting this particular bill when we haven't supported other legislation in the past. Jenni advised that this piece of legislation is directly tied to the Pasadena CoC. We've been so active in getting projects in the pipeline, particularly PSH in recent years, and we see opportunities on the horizon to take action. Further, because there is no funding attached to this bill, the City does not anticipate it will be controversial, unlike

other bills. Jenni advised that this will be a new source of funding if approved and it would not hinder opportunities to receive other funding sources.

Dan made a motion to provide a letter of support for SB1177 on behalf of the Pasadena Partnership to End Homelessness. Cory seconded the motion.

In favor: Jhoana, Cory, Dan, Tammy, Will, Sieglinde

Opposed: None

Absent: Margie

<b>Action Items:</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>
Draft letter of support and have Will as the Board Chair sign it Staff to email out finalized copy of the letter to Board members	Jenni O'Reilly-Jones Diana Trejo

## COC COMPETITION AWARDS ANNOUNCEMENT

HUD announced the FY 2021 CoC Competition awards on March 14<sup>th</sup>. All renewal projects were fully funded at 100%. The CoC also received funding for two new projects through DV Bonus funding and reallocation funding.

- Home First Pasadena was awarded \$150,000 through reallocation and will be operated by Housing Works. The project will leverage Section 8 vouchers to support the rental assistance.
- DV Rapid Rehousing project will be operated by Volunteers of America Los Angeles. The project was awarded \$270,817 (double allocation!).

These projects will renew annually and have the opportunity to bring our CoC more funding year to year. In total the CoC was awarded \$4.4 million.

<b>Action Items:</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>
N/A - Information item	N/A

## COC FUNDING INTRODUCTION

Jenni provided a high level overview of the funding the CoC currently oversees.

- 4 funding buckets:
  - *Permanent Housing*, which includes PSH and RRH
    - Funded through CoC, ESG-CV, Measure H, HHAP-2\*
  - *Emergency Shelter*, primarily motel vouchers
    - Funded through ESG, Measure H, HHAP-1, ESG-CV, HHAP-2\*
  - *Homelessness Prevention*
    - Funded through ESG, Measure H, CESH and HHAP-1\*
  - *Services / Engagement*, which includes CES, housing location, etc.
    - Funded through CoC, ESG, Measure G, ESG-CV, CESH, HHAP-1, Measure I
  - *Planning*, which largely supports City staff
    - Funded through CoC and CESH
  - *HMIS*
    - Funded through CoC

All of the funding has been contracted out, except for \$256k earmarked for rapid rehousing under HHAP-2 and \$300k of homelessness prevention dollars from HHAP-1 (marked with an \*). Staff are currently working to get the prevention money out and contracted to providers ASAP with the eviction moratorium being lifted soon.

## HHAP FUNDING DISCUSSION

Jenni provided an update on HHAP funding the CoC currently has and will be applying for.

- HHAP = Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention state-funded program for counties, large cities and CoCS.

So far four rounds of HHAP have been approved and the CoC has already received our first and second rounds. Much of this funding has already been contracted out, but the rest is currently in the bank with the City. The CoC will be submitting an application for round 3 funding before June 30<sup>th</sup> of this year. Round 4 of HHAP has been approved, but we don't have an allocation or application from the state yet. This will likely come within the calendar year. HHAP is non-competitive funding, as a CoC we receive direct allocation from the state.

HHAP 1: \$638k allocation that will be used to fund emergency shelter and housing location. These were programs the CoC is continuing to fund that were created through the HEAP program in 2019. The expenditure deadline for these funds is June 30, 2025.

- Emergency shelter: \$133k
  - Union Station
  - Sycamores
- Housing location: \$160k
  - Union Station
- Prevention: \$300k = not yet contracted out

HHAP 2: Smaller allocation (\$302k) that will be used for rapid rehousing and emergency shelter for the youth set-aside. The City has not yet contracted out any of these funds. The expenditure deadline is June 30, 2026.

- Rapid rehousing: \$256k
- Emergency shelter (youth set-aside): \$24k
  - Both yet to be contracted out

HHAP 3: \$811k allocation that the CoC will be submitting an application for on or before June 30<sup>th</sup>. Expenditure deadline is June 30, 2026.

HHAP 4: Allocation to be determined, but will likely mirror Round 3. Expenditure deadline is June 30, 2027.

Eligible uses of funding:

1. Rapid rehousing
2. Operating subsidies
3. Street outreach
4. Services coordination
5. Systems support
6. Prevention and diversion
7. Delivery of permanent housing/innovative housing solutions

Action Items	Person(s) Responsible
N/A - Information item	N/A

## BUDGET MODIFICATION PROPOSAL

Staff proposed a budget modification for HHAP-2 funds to meet an urgent need that has emerged. The recommendation is to move \$200k from rapid rehousing to the services coordination activity under HHAP 2. The grant that is currently being used to fund the TAY/GEM programs is coming to an end and staff have been working with the Public Health Department to identify funding sources to sustain the program. Unfortunately, staff came to the conclusion that there was not a way to sustain the program's funding and shifted to looking at how to best ramp down the program. These two programs have over 100 clients enrolled, most of them seniors. Jenni noted that it is going to take more than 3 months to properly ramp the

program down and see the clients through to permanent housing or get them connected to other services. The \$200k from HHAP-2 will support the ramp down of this program and the funding would then be backfilled with HHAP-3 once awarded by the state.

Staff worked to line all of the funding up to support the ramp down, however now there is a possibility that Public Health's contract may be extended with additional funding. Now that the proposed timeline has shifted, staff will not take any action to allocate the funding to Public Health until the County Board of Supervisors has made a decision on whether to approve the funding. Staff would like to have a backup plan queued up to support the program's ramp down in case the BOS does not sufficiently fund the program.

Jhoana asked how the timeline impacts the decision at hand. Jenni advised that she thinks the sooner we get a Board decision on the better so Public Health's staff can be informed earlier so they do not make plans to leave and seek other employment.

Jenni advised that this decision would delay our ability to backfill HHAP-2 rapid rehousing funds by about 6 months because we have to wait for the HHAP 3 funding to be awarded to us. However, the CoC would still have \$56k and rollover from Measure H to support rapid rehousing for this year. Jenni confirmed there will be sufficient funding to keep existing programs operating at current levels until the HHAP-3 funding becomes available. Moving the funding around as proposed would not affect existing programs in a negative way.

Sieglinde made a motion to approve conditional funding for the TAY/GEM programs in the amount of \$200k from HHAP-2. Jhoana seconded the motion.

In favor: Will, Tammy, Dan, Cory, Jhoana, Sieglinde

Opposed: None

Absent: Margie

Action Items	Person(s) Responsible
Staff to advise the Board of the Board of Supervisors' final funding decision and if HHAP-2 funding will be used to support TAY/GEM ramp down.	Jenni O'Reilly-Jones

## TAY/GEM OVERVIEW

GEM and TAY are two sister programs funded by the LA County Department of Mental Health through an innovations grant. This year is the 4<sup>th</sup> of 4 years of the grant. The main difference between the two programs is the population being served. The program provides daily services including food, showers, laundry and clothing donations which anyone over 18 years old can access. The second aspect of the program is service connection and working to help get people enrolled in case management / housing navigation. For people who do not fall within the program's age range, Public Health attempts to engage and refer them to other programs. The program is currently located at the Jackie Robinson Community Center off of Fair Oaks. The Public Health Department is one of the only agencies specifically serving senior experiencing homelessness, and the large majority of the clients enrolled in the TAY/GEM programs are seniors.

Action Items	Person(s) Responsible
N/A – Information item	N/A

### Next Meeting

When End of April – Diana to send a Doodle Poll in the coming weeks. TBD

Where In person!