

Mike Pettit
Assistant County Executive Officer

Kaye Mand
County Chief Financial Officer

Shawn Atin
Assistant County Executive Officer/
Human Resources Director
Labor Relations

May 7, 2019

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: Public Hearing Regarding the Ventura County Entitlement Area FY 2019-20 Annual Action Plan; Authorization to the County Executive Officer to Sign Required Certifications of the Action Plan; Delegation of Authority Related to the County's Community Development Block Grant, Emergency Solutions Grant and HOME Investment Partnership Programs; and Approval of and Authorization for the County Executive Officer to Execute a Contract with Cloudburst Consulting Group, Inc. for Development of the 2020-24 Regional Consolidated Plan

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that your Board:

1. Conduct a public hearing to solicit comments on the preliminary Ventura County ("County") Entitlement Area FY 2019-20 Annual Action Plan ("19-20 AP"; Exhibit 1);
2. Approve the 19-20 AP, and authorize the County Executive Officer ("CEO") to sign the required certifications and transmittal forms, included as attachments to the adopted 19-20 AP, and transmit same to HUD;
3. Authorize the CEO, or his designee, to modify the 19-20 AP as necessary to accommodate program changes and adjust funding recommendations (identified in Exhibit 2 and more fully described in Exhibit 3) consistent with the Citizen Participation Plan;
4. Authorize the CEO, or his designee, to execute the County's standard contracts for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and HOME Investment Partnership Program funds, and other related documents, including, but not limited to, real estate instruments (deeds of trust, promissory notes, loan documents, purchase and subordination agreements) and consultant services contracts, upon review and approval by County Counsel; to certify environmental reviews; and to

sign correspondence on behalf of the Board of Supervisors for those projects identified in the 19-20 AP; and

5. Approve and authorize the CEO, or his designee, to execute a contract with Cloudburst Consulting Group, Inc. for the preparation of the upcoming 2020-24 Regional Consolidated Plan at an initial cost not to exceed \$125,000 (Exhibit 4).

FISCAL/MANDATES IMPACTS:

Fund G001 County Executive Office, Division 1010 – County Executive Office

Mandatory: No
 Source of Funding: \$90,000 Contribution from Cities of Camarillo, Oxnard, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks and Ventura; balance from County HUD – CDBG Admin. funding.
 Funding Match Required: CDBG – None
 HOME – 25% Satisfied by subrecipients
 ESG – 100% Satisfied by subrecipients
 Impact on Other Departments: Minimal

Summary of Revenues and Costs:	FY 2018-19	FY2019-20
Revenues:	\$125,000	\$0
Costs:		
Direct	\$125,000	\$0
Indirect-Dept	\$0	\$0
Indirect-County CAP	\$0	\$0
Total Cost	\$125,000	\$0
Net County Cost	\$0	\$0
Recovered Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0

FY 2018-19 Budget Projection for County Executive Office – 1010				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$17,829,577	\$20,120,395	\$18,188,417	\$1,931,978
Revenue	\$6,496,101	\$6,711,101	\$6,482,226	(\$228,875)
Net Cost	\$11,333,476	\$13,409,294	\$11,706,191	\$1,703,103

	Programmatic Funding		
	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	% Change
CDBG	\$ 1,739,049	\$ 1,600,902	-7.94%
ESG	145,872	147,562	1.16%
HOME	667,279	593,232	-11.10%
TOTAL	\$ 2,552,200	\$ 2,341,696	-8.25%

*FY 19-20 appropriations for these program funds will be included in the preliminary budget.

DISCUSSION:

The County of Ventura and its five small cities (Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Port Hueneme, and Santa Paula) form the Ventura County Entitlement Area (EA), which receives an annual allocation of HUD funds subject to Congressional appropriations under the CDBG, HOME and, in some years, ESG programs. Each of these programs is designed to meet specific needs of low to moderate income persons by facilitating the development of viable urban communities (CDBG funds), and the provision of affordable housing (HOME funds), emergency shelter facilities (ESG funds), and services for homeless persons (CDBG and ESG funds). While in some years we do not receive an allocation of ESG funding, based on methodology, we received an allocation in FY 2019-20.

FY 2019-20 Ventura County Entitlement Area Annual Action Plan

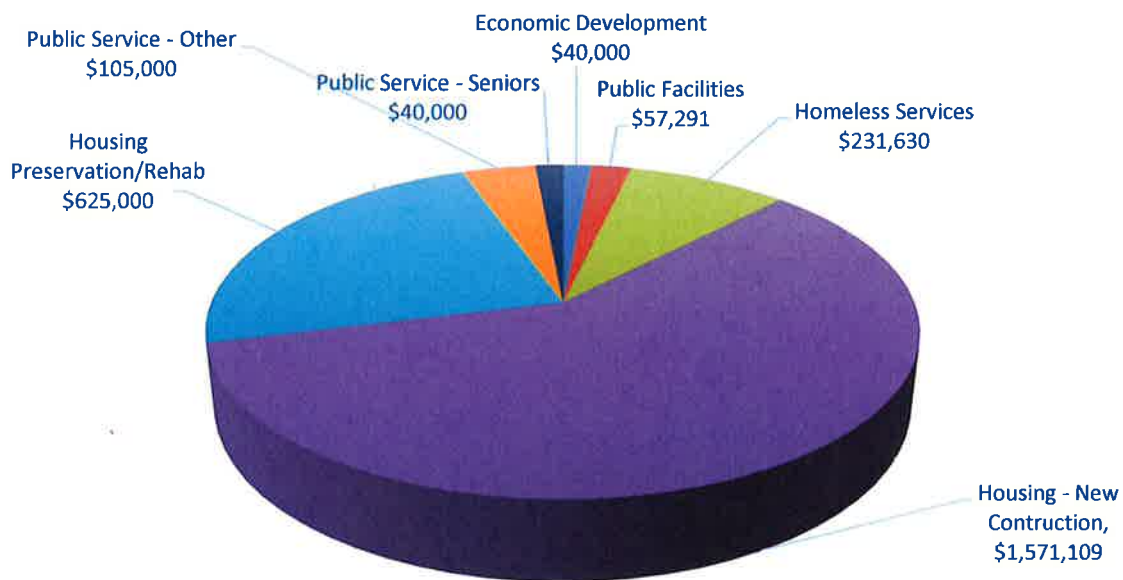
State and local government grantees that receive annual block grants for community development, affordable housing, and homelessness must—as a condition of receiving the grant funds—engage stakeholders and the public regarding the community’s needs in these areas. Grantees report the results of their citizen participation and consultation efforts in Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports. Development of the proposed 19-20 AP was initiated on November 1, 2018, at a public hearing conducted by CEO staff with representatives from each of our EA members in attendance. At the public hearing, agencies and service providers conveyed information regarding their unmet needs and plans to meet those needs by applying for project funding. Prospective sub-recipients submitted proposals for funding in time to meet a January 4, 2019 application deadline. Preliminary funding recommendations were presented and public comments heard at another staff-level public hearing with representatives from EA member cities in attendance on March 6, 2019. The resulting draft 19-20 AP (Exhibit 1), which is posted online and includes those projects and recommendations summarized in Exhibit 2 and described in Exhibit 3, has been available for public review since April 5, 2019.

In promoting the County’s CDBG, ESG, and HOME programs’ missions, the recommendations before your Board today are designed to improve individuals’ and

families' quality of life by supporting the basic needs of vulnerable populations, and increasing community safety and housing quality. The Exhibits reflect the numbers of individuals or families to be served and units or facilities to be constructed over the coming program year. Efforts to achieve these programs' goals will be monitored quarterly and annually to ensure progress is made toward satisfying the EA's overall objectives for the five-year EA 2020-24 Regional Consolidated Plan period.

Through your Board's leadership, and in consultation with our city EA members, increased emphasis continues to be placed on the importance of supporting projects that target our Entitlement Area's most vulnerable residents with services and housing. As evidenced in this chart, over 90% of the funding being recommended targets both housing and services for this population.

FY 2019-20 Funding Recommendations



FY 2020-24 Regional Consolidated Plan

The County of Ventura is taking the lead in the development of the new Regional Consolidated Plan for FY 2020-24 by collaborating with the other Entitlement Area jurisdictions in our County (Camarillo, Oxnard, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks and Ventura) to reduce cost, enhance efficiency and improve coordination. An RFP was issued in February seeking a consulting firm to prepare the new Regional Consolidated Plan for FY 2020-24 and the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, and associated plan of action. Four proposals were received and Cloudburst was selected as one of two of the most qualified firms based upon its inclusion of a more comprehensive scope of work including enhanced community outreach and engagement and a solid understanding of the unique conditions in the County.

The cost represents a nominal increase over costs paid for in the last Regional Consolidated Plan prepared in 2015. Our EA members concur with the selection of Cloudburst and are prepared to participate in the development of and cost for the documents Cloudburst will produce for EA members. It is anticipated that work will begin shortly after contract execution, with an expectation that the draft document will be available before initiation of the FY 20-21 AP funding cycle. Although the contract presented today for your approval is between the County (on behalf of itself and the five small cities) and Cloudburst, the County has received written communications from Camarillo, Oxnard, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks and Ventura (the five other Entitlement Area jurisdictions within the county) confirming their commitment to proportionally share the Cloudburst contract cost. (The contract includes a breakdown of costs by jurisdiction.) The County is assured these five large cities will pay their share of the cost to receive their Regional Consolidated Plan, required to receive CDBG, ESG, and HOME funds. Optional additional services, also listed in the contract, are available to the five other Entitlement Area jurisdictions, and if exercised, will incur additional costs for the other Entitlement Area jurisdictions electing the optional additional services.

CONCLUSION:

CEO staff thanks County agencies, EA member cities, non-profit organizations, housing authorities, and members of the public who assisted in the preparation and review of the HUD planning documents that are recommended for your Board's approval today.

Board of Supervisors
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This letter has been reviewed by the Auditor-Controller's Office and reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel. If you have any questions, please contact Christy Madden at 654-2679 or Tracy McAulay at 662-6792.

Sincerely,



Christy Madden
Senior Deputy Executive Officer



m.p.
Michael Powers
County Executive Officer

Exhibit 1 – Ventura County Entitlement Area FY 2019-20 Annual Action Plan
Exhibit 2 – FY 2019-20 HUD Funding Recommendations
Exhibit 3 – FY 2019-20 HUD Program Project Summaries and Analyses
Exhibit 4 – Contract with Cloudburst Consulting Group, Inc.

c: Participating Cities
Entitlement Area Members