



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Grant Yates, City Manager

Prepared By: Nicole Dailey, Assistant to the City Manager

Date: April 9, 2019

SUBJECT: Amendment No. 1 – Extension of Service Contract with Social Work Action Group for Homeless Street Outreach Services

Recommendation

Authorize the City Manager to execute Amendment No. 1 to Service Contract with Social Work Action Group (SWAG) to extend the agreement for five additional months in an amount not to exceed \$23,750, in such final form as approved by the City Attorney.

Background

Since March 2018, the SWAG has been providing street outreach services to homeless individuals in Lake Elsinore to assist them in exiting life on the streets. Since then, in partnership with the City and the Lake Elsinore Sheriff's Station, SWAG has helped more than 63 homeless individuals exit the streets.

Previously, these services have been funded regionally and locally using funding from the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) Beyond Funding. Under this program, the City entered an agreement with SWAG on October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019.

These funds have been expended and the agreement has expired. Any additional funding for these services requires City Council approval.

Discussion

Consistent, continued street outreach services is essential to the City's success in tackling and addressing homelessness in our community. Since March 2018, SWAG has contacted and started to build relationships with more than 121 homeless individuals in Lake Elsinore. Of these, 74% face substance abuse challenges and 69% suffer from mental illness.

On March 4, 2019, the City of Lake Elsinore, in partnership with the City of Wildomar and the County of Riverside surrounding District 1 areas, was awarded a grant for \$1.5 million in Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funding by the Riverside County Continuum of Care Board of Governance. This grant will be used to fund a comprehensive regional demonstration project to house homeless individuals through diversion/flex subsidies and rental assistance. This comprehensive program includes funding for ongoing, expanded street outreach services in the City of Lake Elsinore, City of Wildomar and surrounding county areas. While originally proposed

to be available in March of 2019, latest estimates for the funding from Riverside County are now August/September 2019. Therefore, in the interim, this Amendment will allow the City to continue providing these vital services for our homeless population.

The proposed Amendment allows for 40 hours per week in homeless services from April 1, 2019 through August 30, 2019 at a proposed cost of \$4,750 per month not to exceed \$23,750. After this date, the City should be able to use the awarded HEAP grant from Riverside County to fund these and other additional services through June 30, 2021.

The City has been satisfied with SWAG's performance and services and recommends the City Council approve this Amendment to ensure ongoing, regular homeless street outreach services.

Fiscal Impact

Amendment No. 1 with SWAG is for an amount not to exceed \$23,750, which will be paid from the Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Operating Budget and will be included in the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Operating Budget.

Exhibits

A – Amendment No. 1

B – Original Agreement