To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Paul Buddenhagen, Director, Health, Housing & Community Services

Subject: Amend Contract No. 010577: Dorothy Day House for Winter Shelter Expansion

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to Contract No. 010577 with Dorothy Day House to add $180,000 to expand the existing Berkeley Emergency Storm Shelter (BESS) and operate a nightly winter shelter for up to 140 nights, potentially at two sites, through April 15, 2018 for a total contract amount not to exceed $251,324.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The total amount of General Funds needed for the expansion of the BESS shelter is $180,000. General Fund is available in Budget Code 010-9703-410-3510 and will be added to Contract Number 010577, CMS# MISKK.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

At its December 5, 2017 meeting as part of the mid-year budget update process, City Council allocated $300,000 for an expanded Winter Shelter Program, which would operate nightly from December 2017 to April 2018. Staff recommends contracting with Dorothy Day House, which has operated the Berkeley Emergency Storm Shelter (BESS) program for over fifteen years to carry out this winter shelter expansion.

At its October 31, 2017 meeting, City Council extended its resolutions passed on January 19, 2016 and November 15, 2016, declaring a homeless shelter crisis in Berkeley through January 19, 2020. The extension authorizes the City Manager to allow homeless people to occupy designated City facilities as shelters during the period of this crisis. It is expected that Dorothy Day House will operate the expanded Winter Shelter Program at one or more City-owned facilities.

The expanded Winter Shelter Program increases the number of nights BESS would operate during the winter from 45 to 120. The original contract amount for 45 nights of shelter for up to 65 people was $30,101. The addition of 75 nights and an expanded capacity to serve 75 people at one location requires an additional $120,000 to operate.
Should staffing be available, DDH may operate at a second location simultaneously, increasing the funding needed by $60,000 to a grand total of $180,000 additional funding needed.

BACKGROUND
The City currently provides 140 year-round shelter beds that are accessible through the City’s homeless coordinated entry system, The Hub. The Hub screens and prioritizes candidates for shelter, and places them in a bed at one of four shelters that serve single women, single men, transition-age youth, and families. Shelter residents occupy those beds until other housing is located with the help of a case manager.

Dorothy Day House (DDH) has operated the Berkeley Emergency Storm Shelter (BESS) for fifteen years. Up until FY17, DDH operated BESS as an overnight shelter on a first-come, first served basis for up to 45 nights for a maximum capacity of 65 people each night. The BESS shelter would open if rain or temperatures at or below 40 degrees were expected overnight.

For the past several years, BESS has operated the BESS at different faith based and City of Berkeley owned sites. This year, the BESS will provide nightly shelter for up to 75 people at a City owned facility. In addition to operating the BESS, through its contract with the City of Berkeley, DDH also operates the Monday through Saturday breakfast program at Christ Church in Berkeley.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with the subject of this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION
Dorothy Day House has a long history of operating the winter shelter, including an expanded nightly shelter during the 2016-2017 winter season. This year it is again willing to expand its operations to a nightly shelter through April 15, 2018 and expand the number nights of service from 45 to 120. If they are able to hire additional staff, the program may be able to expand to serve two locations simultaneously. The proposed BESS scope of services is an expansion of the services outlined in its existing contract. The additional funding will cover the costs of the additional nights of service.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED
Dorothy Day House could continue to operate BESS based on its past inclement weather criteria.
CONTACT PERSON
Jennifer Vasquez, Community Services Specialist III, Health, Housing and Community Services Department

Attachments:
1: Resolution: Dorothy Day House
RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

Dorothy Day House Winter Shelter Expansion

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley is committed to providing a humane response to addressing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has historically implemented a seasonal winter shelter program; and

WHEREAS, Berkeley Emergency Storm Shelter (BESS), operated by Dorothy Day House, has already been awarded $30,101 for fiscal year 2018 to operate an Emergency Storm Shelter on cold and rainy nights only for up to 65 people for 45 nights; and

WHEREAS, at its December 5, 2017 City Council meeting Council authorized expenditures of up to $300,000 for an expanded winter shelter; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Day House has agreed to operate Berkeley Emergency Storm Shelter (BESS), on a continuous basis through April 15, 2018 and to expand the shelter maximum capacity to 75 people; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Day House has an existing contract (Contract No. 010577) with the City of Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, funds in the amount of $110,000 (Budget Code: 010-9703-410-3510) are needed to continuously operate the winter shelter on a nightly basis until April 15, 2018.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute an amendment in FY2018 to Contract No. 010577, CMS# MISKK, with Dorothy Day House adding $180,000 for the purpose of providing a continuous winter shelter until April 15, 2018 at up to two locations for a total contract amount not to exceed $251,324. A record contract of said contract and any amendments are on file with the Office of the City Clerk.