



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 24, 2018

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

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

Subject: Contract Agreement: BOSS to Operate the Secure Storage Program

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with BOSS for 12 months of operations and staffing expenses, as described below, for a storage pilot program for persons experiencing homelessness. The total contract shall not exceed \$50,000 and will provide funds for one storage site (in the downtown area). The contract will utilize funds for the downtown homeless storage pilot program, allocated by Council on December 5, 2017.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Action taken would allow the City to execute a 12-month contract with Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency (BOSS) (CMS No. WKV7K). The total funding amount for this contract would not exceed \$50,000, using the available funding for the downtown homeless storage pilot program (budget code: 010-7906-463.30-38). The funds will be carried over from FY 2018 to FY 2019 and appropriated as part of the First Amendment to the FY 2019 Annual Appropriations Ordinance. This contract has been entered into the City's contract management database and assigned CMS No. WKV7K.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Pursuant to Berkeley's shelter crisis re-authorization passed on 10/31/2017, the City Manager has been granted authority to sole source a contract for "services that will be provided within or to support temporary shelter facilities." Lack of storage for personal belongings is one of the top 6 reasons cited in the 2017 Berkeley Point-in-Time Count and Survey that homeless persons do not access shelter services.¹ The storage program is designed, in part, to support unsheltered people in accessing beds they may not otherwise be interested in utilizing.

BOSS has responded to a Request for Information (RFI) to operate a homeless storage program in downtown Berkeley. The scope of services per the RFI is as follows:

¹ See: http://everyonehome.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/BERKELEY_5-Final-1.pdf

- (i) *Location.* Refurbishes 58 storage lockers (with dimensions of 18” width. X 36” height X 24” depth) at the MASC Courtyard (1931 Center Street);
- (ii) *Hours.* Lockers would be available 7 days a week (Monday-Friday, 8 am-4 pm; Sat-Sun, 8 am-2 pm);
- (iii) *Access:* MASC Program Aides would oversee locker access. The Program Aide is supervised by the MASC Program Manager.
- (iv) *Rules.* Rules and hours would be posted and participants will be given a written sheet describing them as well.

Staff has determined that no additional services, sites, or storage configurations are possible with the amount of funding provided.

BACKGROUND.

On December 5, 2017, as part of the mid-year budget process, Council allocated \$50,000 towards the establishment of a downtown homeless storage pilot program.

After the allocation of these funds, HHCS staff began researching program models and locations that could be feasibly supported by this funding amount, and ultimately circulated a Request for Information (RFI) to all Berkeley homeless services nonprofits to solicit interest and capacity in operating a program to provide storage in the downtown area for \$50,000. The Homeless Commission was invited to designate a representative to review responses alongside city staff, which they did with an action taken on April 11, 2018. BOSS was the lone respondent to this RFI.

The RFI review panel was poised to recommend BOSS for this contract when, on May 29, Council referred to the FY2019 budget process the allocation of an additional \$100,000 in funding for two homeless storage sites—one downtown, and one in West Berkeley. Staff decided to wait until budget action taken at the June 26, 2018 Council meeting clarified the final amount available. Ultimately, at that meeting, Council deferred a possible addition of \$100,000 to the November budget process, prompting the current recommendation from staff to move forward with a \$50,000 downtown program at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental impacts or opportunities associated with the action recommended in this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Both Council and Community have expressed their concern that the homeless storage program be implemented as quickly as possible. For example, on May 1, 2018, the Peace and Justice Commission recommended that Council adopt a resolution “to make available immediately the [homeless] storage facilities for which funding was recently authorized in December 2017.” On May 29, in their budget referral report for the homeless Secure Storage Program, Council asked staff to “meet the purposes and

intent of this item as quickly as possible, based on their expertise, the expertise of local community organizations, and best practices.”

Ultimately, the final budget allocation and scope of services for homeless storage in Berkeley will not be known until the November budget process, at which time an additional \$100,000 might be allocated to expand storage services, including adding an additional site. If staff waits for the outcome of the November budget referral process to develop a contract recommendation, the program would face substantial additional delays and would not open until well into 2019. Therefore, we recommend starting the \$50,000 program now, and revisiting budget and scope as needed at a later time if additional funds become available.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Wait until the November budget process to determine the final scope of services and budget amount available.

CONTACT PERSON

Peter Radu, Homeless Services Coordinator, HHCS, (510) 981-5435.

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT: BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SELF-SUFFICIENCY (BOSS) FOR
DOWNTOWN HOMELESS STORAGE PILOT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Berkeley City Council authorized the extension of a homeless shelter crisis on October 31, 2017 and in so doing authorized the City Manager to “waive non-voter approved purchasing and bid requirements for the installation of facilities and services that are directly related to providing temporary shelter for the homeless”; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 point-in-time count and survey of persons experiencing homelessness in Berkeley found that 11% of individuals reported not using shelter because they have no place to store their belongings; and

WHEREAS, to partially alleviate this barrier to shelter, the Berkeley City Council allocated \$50,000 in funding towards the creation of a downtown homeless storage program on December 5, 2017; and

WHEREAS, city staff has identified, via a Request for Information circulated to Berkeley homeless services non-profits in March, 2018, Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency (BOSS) as an operator for the downtown homeless storage pilot program.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to execute a contract and any amendments with Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency (BOSS) for 12 months of operations of a Downtown Homeless Storage Pilot Program in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 (CMS No. WKV7K). A signed copy of said documents, agreements and any amendments will be kept on file with the Office of the City Clerk.