



Office of the City Manager

ACTION CALENDAR

October 16, 2018

(Continued from May 29, 2018)

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
 Submitted by: Kelly Wallace, Interim Director, Health, Housing & Community Services
 Subject: Companion Report: Home Share Pilot Program Recommendation

RECOMMENDATION

Refer agencies interested in establishing a home share pilot program to the City's Request for Proposals process for community agency funding.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

There are no fiscal impacts to this recommendation.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The intent of home share programs is to connect homeowners or renters who need assistance and have extra rooms in their homes to renters in need of housing. The Housing Advisory Commission recommends launching a "City-sponsored" home share pilot program. The proposed pilot will rely primarily on the City funding a nonprofit community agency for administration and operations.

Every two years, the City of Berkeley issues a Request for Proposals (RFP) for funding for community agencies. The community agency RFP is specifically designed to support nonprofit organizations serving City priorities for housing and social services. These priorities are identified by plans that were subject to community input and adopted by the City Council. A nonprofit administered home share program is consistent with this criteria. The next community agency RFP will be released in November 2018.

BACKGROUND

The City's RFP process provides community agencies equitable and transparent access to limited public funding. The community agency RFP is guided by federal, state and local regulations, which require a process that is open to and encouraging of public participation, including multiple City commissions. This process culminates in funding recommendations to City Council. Evaluating a home share program proposal during the community agency funding process would allow the City to review this proposal in the context of all proposed activities.

The City of Fremont and the City and County of San Francisco fund nonprofit agencies to administer home share programs.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no direct environmental effects associated with the content of this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

A nonprofit administered home share program is consistent with the City's stated goals to support housing and social services. The City's community agency funding RFP process exists to support nonprofits which demonstrate the capacity to meet these goals. Providing a community agency with funding for a pilot following an RFQ process will circumvent the established community agency RFP process, and undermine the City's effort to provide transparent and equitable access to local nonprofit support. A nonprofit receiving public funding from the City should follow the public review process to ensure the organizations with the best plans and qualifications are selected. The RFP's two year funding schedule is also consistent with the HAC's recommendation for a two year pilot program.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Amy Davidson, Senior Community Development Project Coordinator, Health, Housing & Community Services, (510) 981-5406