



Office of the City Manager

03

CONSENT CALENDAR  
January 29, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager  
Submitted by: Kelly Wallace, Interim Director Department of Health, Housing and Community Services  
Subject: Memorandum of Understanding with Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services to Fund Construction Costs for Wellness Center

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to adopt a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Berkeley and Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services (ACBHCS) for the term February 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 for an expenditure of up to \$750,000 to fund the constructions costs of a Mental Health Wellness Center (Wellness Center) located in the City of Berkeley.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The execution of this MOU will result in the transfer of a portion of the City of Berkeley's Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Capital Facilities funding allocation to Alameda County BHCS so that funds may be leveraged for constructions costs of a Wellness Center. The total amount of money to be expended on the Wellness Center construction costs from the City of Berkeley would be \$750,000; ACBHCS will also contribute \$750,000 for construction costs of the Wellness Center.

Berkeley Mental Health's approved MHSA FY 2019 Annual Update included authorization for transferring \$750,000 from Community Services and Supports (CSS) to Capital Facilities and Technological Needs (CFTN) and then utilizing that funding for construction costs of the Wellness Center. The MOU is the mechanism that defines the terms of the fiscal relationship between the City and the County and will enable the transfer of funds.

Funds are in expenditure budget code 315-51-503-525-2020-000-451-636110-.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley currently has an MOU with ACBHCS that authorizes the expenditure of up \$300,000 of CSS funding a year for the operation of a Wellness

Center. Bonita House is the vendor who is contracted by ACBHCS for the operation of the Wellness Center, and they are in the process of building out the site they have leased at 1909 University Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94704. Bonita House has cost estimates of \$1,500,000 for the reconstruction costs for the site they have leased for the Wellness Center. Based on MHSAs regulations, construction costs for MHSAs projects need to be spent from Capital Facilities and Technological Needs. In the MHSAs FY19 Plan Update, the Mental Health Division obtained Council approval to transfer funds from CSS to CFTN and expend those funds on the Wellness Center construction costs. The MOU will allow for CFTN funding to be appropriately spent on construction costs, with CSS funding being reserved for actual operations of the Wellness Center.

### BACKGROUND

The City of Berkeley is partnering with Alameda County to fund a Wellness Center for residents of Berkeley and Albany. The Wellness Center is modeled after existing Wellness Centers in other parts of Alameda County and will provide three levels of services. First, the Wellness Center will be open to anyone in the community who either needs support or connection to the mental health system. This is the largest level of service and will be primarily staffed by individuals with lived experience with mental health illness. Second, for a smaller cohort, the Wellness Center will be able to provide short term case management with a licensed clinician. This level of service will allow people who are not otherwise connected to care, and who use the Wellness Center, to receive some targeted support for a wide variety of issues. Finally, the Wellness Center will have some capacity to provide psychiatry and medication services for individuals not otherwise connected to care.

Bonita House has contracted with a company to do the necessary construction work to create a Wellness Center physical layout that will support the goals of the Wellness Center. ACBHCS will utilize the funding provided by the City of Berkeley to pay for approved charges for this construction project.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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

### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Providing this funding for the construction costs will support the ability of the Vendor to do necessary construction work to support a Wellness Center in Berkeley, which will provide a needed expansion of the system of care for individuals with mental health issues in Berkeley and Albany.

### ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The City could decide not to fund the construction costs for the Wellness Center. This would either lead to the cancellation of the Wellness Center or greatly delay the opening of the Wellness Center.

CONTACT PERSON

Steven Grolnic-McClurg, Mental Health Manager, HHCS, (510) 981-5249

Attachments:

1: Resolution

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

MOU with ACBHCS to Fund Construction Costs for Wellness Center

WHEREAS, as part of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), the State of California designated a process for transferring funds for all mental health jurisdictions from Community Services and Supports (CSS) to Capital Facilities and Technological Needs (CFTN); and

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley has an approved FY 2019 Program and Expenditure Plan that designates the transfer of \$750,000 a year from CSS to CFTN to fund construction costs for a Mental Health Wellness Center (Wellness Center); and

WHEREAS, a Memorandum of Understanding will provide the mechanism whereby the City of Berkeley Mental Health Services Act CFTN funds can be transferred to the lead agency, Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services, to be utilized for the construction costs Mental Health Wellness Center; and

WHEREAS, funds are available in the FY 2019 budget code 315-51-503-525-2020-000-451-636110- in the MHSA fund received from the State of California.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to adopt a MOU between the City of Berkeley and Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services for the term February 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 for an expenditure of up to \$750,000 to fund the construction costs of a Mental Health Wellness Center (Wellness Center) located in the City of Berkeley.