



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
June 25, 2019

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 Department

Subject: Contract: Dorothy Day House to Operate Shelter at Veteran's Building

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Dorothy Day House in an amount not to exceed \$832,000 to operate the year-round shelter at the Veteran's Building in FY20 and FY21.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

This Resolution will partially fund two years (FY20 and FY21) of the Dorothy Day House Shelter at the Veterans Building using Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funding: \$832,000 in budget code 336-51-504-535-0000-000-444-636110. The HEAP funds will be added to the funds City Council awards Dorothy Day House in the FY20-24 Community Agency funding cycle.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

At the March 12, 2019 City Council meeting, staff provided an overview of the HEAP, a flexible but time-limited and one-time source of funding from the State of California to address the homelessness crisis:

- Must be used for services, capital construction costs, and/or housing subsidies that will be of direct benefit to people experiencing homelessness.
- The funds cannot be used as capitalized operating reserves or for activities directly related to enforcement, encampment closures, etc.
- Must be contractually obligated and 50% spent down by January 2020, and 100% spent down by June of 2021.
- Requires a County-imposed (but not statutorily required) 50% local match. Staff intend to meet this match requirement with existing general fund contributions to homeless services, which exceed the 50% threshold requirement.
- Is one-time only, with all unspent funds as of June 2021 returned to the State.

Given the above parameters and the City's priority to extend year-round shelter operations at the Veteran's Building, staff recommended using HEAP funds for this purpose. Dorothy Day House submitted a proposals to operate the shelter through the City's FY20-24 Community Agency Request for Proposal process. Since staff

recommended and Council approved funding the shelter for two years with HEAP funds, no general funds were recommended for this shelter as part of the Community Agency RFP process. The attached resolution will authorize the City Manager to add HEAP funds to Dorothy Day's FY20-24 contract.

BACKGROUND

Dorothy Day House (DDH) has operated the Berkeley Emergency Storm Shelter (BESS) for fifteen years. Up until FY17, DDH operated BESS as an overnight emergency shelter on a first-come, first served basis for up to 45 nights for a maximum capacity of 65 people each night dependent on weather conditions.

In addition to this program, DDH has operated an expanded and extended winter shelter on a nightly basis since September of 2018. The DDH shelter moved from University Center to the Veteran's Building at 1931 Center Street on October 1, 2018. On February 19, 2019, City Council authorized an additional \$114,960 to amend DDH's contract to extend the shelter through June 30, 2019. The DDH Shelter provides nightly shelter for up to 52 literally homeless people each night.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental impacts associated with this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Dorothy Day House has a long history of operating the winter shelter, including an expanded and extended nightly shelter for the past two winter seasons. Dorothy Day House has successfully operated a nightly shelter for more than one year. The availability and parameters of the HEAP funds allows the City to continue to fund 52 new year-round shelter beds through June 30, 2021.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Staff have not identified another approach that would allow the year-round shelter at the Veteran's Building to continue operations.

CONTACT PERSON

Jennifer Vasquez, Community Services Specialist III, HHCS, (510) 981-5431.

Attachment:

1: Resolution

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

CONTRACT: DOROTHY DAY HOUSE TO OPERATE A YEAR ROUND SHELTER AT  
THE VETERAN'S BUILDING

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

WHEREAS, City Council allocated funding in FY19 to Dorothy Day House to extend nightly shelter operations at the Veteran's Building through June 30, 2019; and

WHEREAS, in the absence of an ongoing source, at its March 12, 2019 meeting, the City Council discussed dedicating \$832,000 in California Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) money to support extended shelter operations at the Veteran's Building through FY2021, Resolution 68,779-N.S.; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Day House submitted a proposal through the City's FY20-24 Community Agency Request for Proposal process to continue shelter operations at the Veteran's Building; and

WHEREAS, the City has not identified an ongoing funding source to support the program's operations into fiscal year 2020.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to add HEAP funds in an amount not to exceed \$832,000 for two years of shelter operations (FY20-21) to the contract amount awarded through the FY20-24 Community Agency contract process with Dorothy Day House. A signed copy of said documents, agreements, and any amendments will be kept on file with the Office of the City Clerk.

