

Urban County Policy Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting held remotely

August 10, 2020

URBAN COUNTY POLICY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilor Julie Olson

Councilor Cherish DesRochers

Jim Hodges

David Scott

Tracy Coleman

Mayor Katie Listek

Clark County

City of Battle Ground

City of Camas

City of Washougal

City of Woodland

Town of Yacolt

GUESTS

Dale Whitley (Council for the Homeless); Jason Irving (Mackay Sposito); Peggy Sheehan (City of Vancouver)

STAFF

Michael Torres, Samantha Whitley, Rebecca Royce, Janet Snook

I. Introductions

II. April 13, 2020, Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved following a motion made by David Scott and seconded by Jim Hodges.

III. January – June 2020 quarterly summary reports

Project progress is summarized in the quarterly reports. Contact staff with any questions.

IV. Small Business Assistance update

Approximately \$1.34M in CDBG COVID-19 and CARES Title V grants has been contracted to boost economic recovery in the form of microenterprise grants. Businesses receiving assistance must meet the CDBG guidelines of five or fewer employees, be outside the City of Vancouver, and owner's income is less than 80% of area median income. The application period for businesses to apply for funding is three days. Partners are being notified now to share the word. Press releases and advertisements will precede the application period.

V. HUD Five-year Consolidated Plan and 2020 Action Plan submittal

The Consolidated Plan is nearing the end of its 30-day comment period. It will be submitted to County Councilors for approval in September. The Action Plan describes the projects approved for 2020 funding. Once approved, these are sent to HUD for review and to release 2020 funds for contracting.

VI. 2020 Project Timelines

Clark County anticipates receiving the grant agreement from HUD by the end of October and will execute contracts quickly upon receipt.

VII. Point-in-Time/Homeless Connect Data (Dale Whitley)

Point-in-Time is a snapshot of a single night annually, counting people who are sheltered and unsheltered in places not meant for habitation. It provides trend data. Counting effectiveness is also improved each year. In 2020, the total homeless count was down 4% over the previous year. For more details, refer to <https://www.councilforthehomeless.org/point-in-time-count-2020/>.

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VIII. COVID-19 Update

In addition to CDBG and CARES grants mentioned above, Clark County has or anticipates to receive:

- COVID-19 Emergency Housing Grant: approximately \$1.46M for quarantine, isolation, and emergency shelter for people at high risk of COVID-complications
- CARES Title V: approximately \$2.6M to continue the quarantine and isolation facility to October 31.
- CARES Title V: approximately \$600,000, for homeless crisis response
- ESG-CV relief funds: approximately \$715,000 for rental assistance and shelters support
- Housing and Essential Needs (HEN): approximately \$1.72M for rapid rehousing
- Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) COVID relief: approximately \$470,000 for Community Action programs
- Commerce shelter grant: estimated \$2.5M to use over 3 years, in joint application with the City of Vancouver
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) COVID relief Phase 2: unknown timeline and amount
- Emergency Rental Assistance Program: approximately \$4.9M to prevent evictions

IX. Other

The 2021 RFA schedule remains unchanged. The pre-submittal meeting will be held virtually.

The next meeting is September 14, 2020, 8:30 am, to be held virtually, if needed.