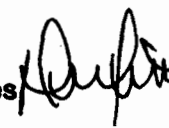




## Agenda Item

52

DATE: February 24, 2015  
TO: Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Delfino E. Neira, Director, Department of Social Services   
SUBJECT: Emergency Solutions Grant Financial Assistance Master Agreement

### RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1. Approve and authorize the Chairman to execute a Master Agreement for Emergency Solutions Grant Rapid Re-Housing financial assistance services, effective February 24, 2015 through June 30, 2017 (\$115,240).
2. Authorize the Director of the Department of Social Services, or designee, to add and delete qualified vendors as needed to the Board-approved Master Agreement.

Approval of the first recommended action will allow the Department to contract with community based vendors to provide Rapid Re-housing financial assistance services. Approval of the second recommended action will allow the Director of the Department, or designee, to add and delete vendors, as appropriate. The recommended Agreement term includes the remainder of the current Fiscal Year and the next two fiscal Years for a total cost of \$115,240; it is funded with Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funds with no net County cost.

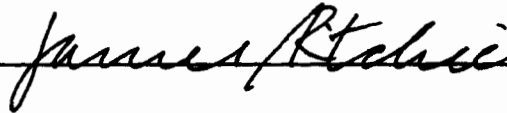
### ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

Should your Board decline to execute the Master Agreement, your Board could direct the Department to issue a Request for Proposal and develop individual agreements with vendors in place of a master agreement for services; however, doing so would significantly delay needed financial assistance services.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no net County cost associated with the recommended actions. The maximum cost of the recommended Master Agreement for the twenty-eight (28) month term is \$115,240 and will be offset entirely by ESG funds. The estimated cost for FY 2014-15, which represents the first five months of the agreement term, is \$16,462. The estimated annual cost for FY 2015-16 and FY 2016-17 is

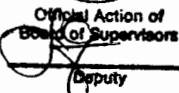
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW



Page 1 of 2



APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED

Official Action of  
Board of Supervisors  
  
Deputy

UNANIMOUS ☒ BORGEAS \_\_\_\_\_ MENDES \_\_\_\_\_ PACHECO \_\_\_\_\_ PEREA \_\_\_\_\_ POOCHIGIAN \_\_\_\_\_

\$49,389. Vendors are required to provide a dollar for dollar match of all ESG funds they receive through the recommended Master Agreement. Sufficient appropriations to fund the Master Agreement are included in the FY 2014-15 Adopted Budget for the Department of Social Services Organization 5610 and will be included in subsequent annual requested budgets.

DISCUSSION:

On July 22, 1987, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act was signed into law, which created federal programs designed to offer a modern system of care for homeless individuals and families. As an amendment to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH Act) was enacted into law on May 20, 2009, which requires counties to establish and collaborate with a local Continuum of Care planning body for ESG and other homeless related programs. Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC) is the County's established Continuum of Care entity as required by the HEARTH Act and has been recognized in this capacity by Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for over 10 years. FMCoC is currently comprised of 18 member organizations, including school districts, local cities, and several non-profit organizations who are all stakeholders in the effort to end homelessness.

The HEARTH Act also requires counties to develop and utilize a coordinated assessment system that is designed to make rapid, effective, and consistent client-to-housing and service matches, regardless of a client's location within a CoC's geographic area, by standardizing the access and assessment process and coordinating referrals across the CoC. The system utilized by FMCoC is the Coordinated Assessment Housing Match (CAHM) system and is managed in partnership by FMCoC members.

Rapid Re-housing financial assistance services are necessary to assist many County residents who are matched to housing through the CAHM system but who do not have the finances to pay for security deposits, moving costs, or other financial services included in the recommended Master Agreement. The County currently coordinates with organizations that offer Housing Choice Vouchers for veterans, families, and those with disabilities, or with organizations that have other programs to support rental assistance. To provide appropriate access to financial assistance services, it is in the County's interest to utilize various organizations for these services through this recommended Master Agreement rather than contract with individual organizations. The Department has collaborated with FMCoC and has received its support for providing these services through this recommended Master Agreement.

To ensure eligible County residents receive Rapid Re-Housing financial assistance in a timely manner, the Department is bringing forth the recommended Master Agreement for your Board's consideration to allow vendors operating under this Master Agreement to be added and/or deleted by the Department Director after issuance of a Letter of Qualifications (LOQ). With your Board's approval, the Director will have the authority to add and delete providers to the Master Agreement based on responsiveness to the LOQ. All eligible applicants will be accepted into the recommended Master Agreement. Services to be provided through the recommended Master Agreement will include the following Rapid Re-Housing financial assistance to County residents: rental application fees, security deposits, last month's rent, utility deposits, utility payments, and moving costs.

The recommended Master Agreement includes language that authorizes the Department's Director or designee to add and/or terminate an individual provider without cause upon 30 days advance written notice and withhold payment as necessary.

DEN:tz