



Council Business Meeting

April 18, 2023

Agenda Item	Grant Application for Unhoused Emergency Shelter	
From	Lind Reid	Housing Program Manager
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Item Type	Requested by Council <input type="checkbox"/> Update <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Direction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/>	

SUMMARY

Staff is requesting authorization to prepare and submit an application requesting funding for the acquisition of property within Ashland that could readily be renovated to provide shelter beds and accommodation for unhoused families. Renovations may include installation of a commercial kitchen, laundry facilities, accessibility improvements, showers, and the installation of sprinkler systems necessary for overnight accommodation. The formal application would include a request for funding sufficient to cover the costs of site acquisition, renovation costs, and additional funding to cover the operating costs through the term of the grant in coordination with a nonprofit service provider.

POLICIES, PLANS & GOALS SUPPORTED

[2020-2024 Consolidated Plan for Use of CDBG funds](#)

BACKGROUND AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The City of Ashland is involved in the implementation of Emergency Order 23-02, a Governor's emergency order aimed at addressing homelessness. The funding for this program is being provided through Continuums of Care (CoC), which is expected to be administered by the CoC lead agency, ACCESS Inc.

The State has provided guidance for how the funding is to be utilized. The State is asking the Jackson County CoC to utilize the funding to develop 67 new shelter beds and rehouse at least 133 currently unsheltered households, with a total of \$8.8 million awarded to achieve these goals. The State expects the funding to be completely expended on eligible activities by Jan. 11, 2024. The State has indicated that there is no offer or guarantee of ongoing State funding to operate newly acquired facilities or initiated programs beyond the Jan. 11th deadline. The City of Ashland is represented in the Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) group, which is responsible for the administration of the funding, but as a potential applicant for funding would not be represented on the Jackson County CoC award selection committee. The City has submitted a Letter of Interest to indicate the City will be prepared to submit an application for funding in support of an Emergency Shelter proposal.

The MAC group will issue a request for proposals (RFP) and advertise it through a public process to ensure transparency and inclusion. The RFP is expected to be issued the week of April 17th with the formal application due two weeks after issuance. In order for City Staff to respond to the RFP and submit an application in the limited timeframe presented, the Council will need to authorize the application for competitive State funding through the anticipated RFP process to establish an emergency shelter in Ashland in compliance with the State priority use for the funding.





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The grant contracts are expected to be executed, and the funding will be available to the CoC by April 28th. More information about Emergency Order 23-02 funding and process can be found on the Oregon Housing and Community Services website. <https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/Pages/housing-eo.aspx>

FISCAL IMPACTS

The City is not required to provide any matching funds for this grant application; however, the City does have unallocated funding from The State Department of Administrative Services Grant under Senate Bill 5561 that could support this activity if needed.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Not Applicable

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS

Staff recommends that the Council authorize staff to prepare and submit an application for grant funding to acquire and renovate a building to be used for sheltering purposes and to contract with a service provider to oversee the operations of the shelter. However, it is important to note that in the event the City is awarded the competitive grant funds, the City Council will still need to authorize the acceptance of the grant as recommended by staff.

ACTIONS, OPTIONS & POTENTIAL MOTIONS

I move to authorize staff to prepare and submit an application for grant funding to acquire and renovate a building to be used for sheltering purposes, and to contract with a service provider to oversee the operations of the shelter.