

CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
AGENDA ITEM DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM

DEPARTMENT: Community and Human Development Department
AGENDA DATE: June 2, 2009
CONTACT PERSON/PHONE: Thomas Serrano, Senior Grant Planner - 541-4642
DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED: All Districts

SUBJECT:

That the City Manager be authorized to submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) a request to approve a change in grantee status, pursuant to 24 C.F.R. Section 583.405, from the City to La Posada Home, Inc. for the SHP renewal grant Project No.: TX0130B6T03080; and be authorized to execute any and all agreements, documents, or transfers necessary to accomplish the intent of this resolution upon approval by the City Attorney's Office and Director of Community and Human Development.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:

Since 1999, the City of El Paso has received a grant award from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to administer a Supportive Housing Program (SHP) for the purpose of providing Transitional Housing (TH) to homeless women with children at a city-owned housing facility located at 1926-1930 Bassett Avenue. On July 2003, the City contracted with the Salvation Army to serve as project sponsor for the City's SHP for the purpose of operating the TH program. The City leased the facility to the Salvation Army subject to an annual renewal. On August 31, 2005 the City, at the request of the Salvation Army, terminated the project sponsorship contract with the agency. As of March 21, 2006 to the present, the City has contracted with La Posada Home, Inc. to serve as project sponsor for the City's SHP. The property lease agreement was transferred to the La Posada as well. On April 20, 2009 La Posada submitted a request to the City of El Paso to assume the grantee responsibilities for the SHP which would relieve the City of El Paso from all responsibilities for the SHP. The SHP grant is a renewal grant which will require a Grant Amendment that HUD would need to approve. City Council will need to approve La Posada's request before it is submitted to HUD. City staff is recommending that City Council approve La Posada's request for the following reasons: (1) La Posada already is a grantee for an additional SHP operated at 1020 Campbell; and has administered the program satisfactorily; (2) the change would allow for La Posada to seek funding directly from HUD for the TH program; (3) the change would expedite payments to La Posada without waiting to be reimbursed by the City of El Paso; and, (4) the change would allow city staff more time to concentrate on implementing projects under the Federal Stimulus Program. If the grantee change is approved, it would be on the following conditions: (1) the City of El Paso will continue to lease the property at 1926-1930 Bassett Avenue to La Posada contingent upon La Posada being able to successfully operate a TH program; (2) the City and La Posada understand and acknowledge that approval for a significant change in the SHP Grant Amendment is contingent upon La Posada's SHP application ranking remaining high enough on the HUD list after the approved change to have been competitively selected for funding in the year the application was selected in accordance with 24 CFR 583.405.

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:

Has the Council previously considered this item or a closely related one?

No

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

How will this item be funded? Has the item been budgeted? If so, identify funding source by account numbers and description of account. Does it require a budget transfer?

N/A

BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:

Enter appropriate comments or N/A
N/A

*****REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION*****

LEGAL: (if required) _____ **FINANCE:** (if required) _____

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Anthony C. Shear W. Lilly
(Example: if RCA is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)
Information copy to appropriate Deputy City Manager

APPROVED FOR AGENDA:

CITY MANAGER: _____

DATE: _____

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, since 1999, the City of El Paso has been the Grantee of the Supportive Housing Program (SHP), Project No.: TX0130B6T03080, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the purpose of providing transitional housing to homeless women with children; and

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2006, the City Council designated La Posada Home, Inc. as the Project Sponsor to administer the Supportive Housing Program at a City-owned facility and has designated as such on an annual basis; and

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2009, La Posada Home, Inc. formally requested that the City submit to HUD a request for approval of a change in the grantee under the SHP renewal grant from the City to La Posada Home, Inc., in accordance with the grant amendment requirements contained in Title 24, Code of Federal Regulations Section 583.405, for release of the City from its obligations to administer the SHP renewal grant; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is in the City's best interest that La Posada Home, Inc. become the direct grantee of the SHP renewal grant, instead of project sponsor, because it has the expertise and demonstrated capacity to administer fully the grant for the continued benefit of the City's homeless population; and

WHEREAS, the City understands that HUD approval of a significant change to the SHP renewal grant is contingent upon the application ranking remaining high enough after the approved change to have been competitively selected for funding in the year the application was selected.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

That the City Manager be authorized to submit to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) a request to approve a change in grantee status, pursuant to 24 C.F.R. Section 583.405, from the City to La Posada Home, Inc. for the SHP renewal grant Project No.: TX0130B6T03080; and be authorized to execute any and all agreements, documents, or transfers necessary to accomplish the intent of this resolution upon approval by the City Attorney's Office and Director of Community and Human Development.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2009.

CITY OF EL PASO

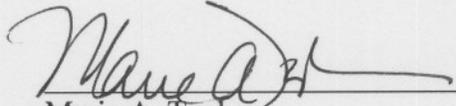
John F. Cook
Mayor

[Signatures Continue on Following Page]

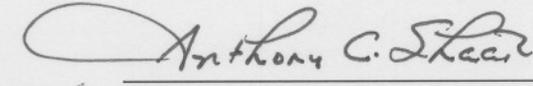
ATTEST:

Richarda Duffy Momsen
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Marie A. Taylor
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:


William L. Lilly, Director
Community and Human Development



LA POSADA HOME

A Shelter for Families and Their Dependents

April 20, 2009

Mrs. Connie Jimenez
Grant Planner, Homeless Programs
City of El Paso
Dept. of Community & Human Development
2 Civic Center Plaza
El Paso, Texas 79901

Dear Connie:

As per our previous conversation, I am submitting this letter to respectfully request a change of applicant from the City of El Paso to La Posada, Inc. for the Supportive Housing Program (SHP) Grant for La Posada Home, Inc. Transitional Living Center.

I believe this change would streamline the process in that requests, documentation, and application materials would now be in, and completed on, only one location. I also believe we are capable of managing this grant since we have been managing a similar grant for the Campbell location for 5 years now. We are experienced with the process and are committed to preserve the letter, obligations, and requirements of the grant.

I also want to assure you that the project site, clients, services, and all of the activities approved for funding under the current City SHP contract with La Posada, Inc. will not change. The Agency has been operating and providing the same array of services for 22 years now, is fiscally stable, and is unswerving in its mission to continue to serve the people of El Paso for many more years to come.

Please let me know what other steps need to be completed in order for you to consider this request.

Sincerely,

Monica Almuina

Executive Director

APR 29 2009

Community Development Department