

**Advisory Council on Aging (ACOA) Housing Work Group
Meeting Minutes - Monday, January 10, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

Present: Gerald Richards (Chair; ACOA); Dale Harrington, Jim Donnelly, Michelle Berman, (ACOA); Caitlin Sly (Meals on Wheels Diablo Region); Clara Fuchshuber (Front Porch); Don Jenkins (Lafayette Senior Service Commission); Anthony Macias and Nhang Luong (Staff Support; Area Agency on Aging)

Introductions

Agenda and minutes review – Agenda and minutes approved unanimously.

Update: Front Porch’s Home Match Program - Clara Fuchshuber, Program Manager

Match in Concord between two women; rent was very affordable at \$600. Currently, new providers are place on waitlist but might restart assessments in March.

Update: Housing Work Group Area Plan Objective submitted to the Area Agency on Aging for inclusion in the FY 2022-2023 Area Plan Update.

Update: Measure X and Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) – Mariana Moore, Senior Director, Ensuring Opportunity Campaign to End Poverty in Contra Costa

Measure X Advisory Board vision statement: Contra Costa County will have the necessary funds to invest in and sustain a robust system of prevention and care, and social and public services necessary to support a vibrant community and ensure that all residents have equitable opportunities to thrive.

Funding recommendations for FY 21-22 - Five goal areas: mental well-being, equity in action, healthy communities, intergenerational thriving, and welcoming and safe community

Recommended strategies that Board of Supervisors funded:

1. Mental well-being – Crisis Response Initiative, community grants to serve younger children (age 0 to 5), community-based mental health services for at-risk populations, and San Ramon Valley Fire medical response to mental health crisis model.
2. Equity in action – County Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice, Arts & Culture Commission programs, and Innovation Fund to facilitate community-based responses to service needs.
3. Healthy communities – Local Housing Trust Fund
4. Intergenerational thriving – Accessible Transportation Strategic Plan, community-based youth centers/services in Central and East County, and Master Plan on Aging local implementation.
5. Welcoming & Safe community – East County Fire Services, Re-open closed stations, fire/wildfire mitigation/fuel reduction, and seasonal fire staffing.

Board of Supervisors Actions:

- 11/16/21 approved funding recommendations
- Decreased Measure X financial reserves from 25% to 20%
- Approved \$75 million hospital/clinics capital projects
- \$6 million to Sheriff patrol
- \$15.5 million of Measure X funds allocation to be decided on 2/22/22 meeting

Emergency Rental Assistance program (ERAP) Update: Richmond Community Foundation (RCF) received grant and distributed to community organizations to conduct outreach and provide technical assistance. RCP sub-contracted with twenty-one organizations.

The goal was to conduct outreach to 1,000 households but they reached over 80,000 and 3,040 received technical assistance. Grant period ended but the council of contractors want to continue to meet. All funds in Contra Costa have been allocated. However, renters can still apply until March 31 to qualify for tenant protections.

Update: Master Plan for Aging (MPA) - Ana Bagtas, Program Manager, Area Agency on Aging

Board of Supervisors approved Measure X funding for MPA implementation.

\$250K one-time allocation for planning and hiring consultant to engage the community.

- RFQ will be issued to hire consultant(s).
- A website will be created to update the community on MPA developments.

\$1 million allocation for April 2022- June 2023. A process will be developed to identify and fund direct service projects that meet service gaps.

After June 2023, MPA will receive \$2 million annual allocation. The budget submitted to the Board of Supervisors includes placeholders for workforce development, transportation, senior nutrition, and legal support. Innovative programs will be encouraged to apply.

Announcements/Information Sharing:

HICAP Manager position filled and another person to help with Area Agency on Aging contracts will come onboard in March.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 21, 2022, 9:30-11:30 a.m.