

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



ITEM: 3.54
(ID # 22209)

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, June 27, 2023

FROM : HOUSING AND WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS:

SUBJECT: HOUSING AND WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION (HWS/WDD): Approval of Homeless to Work Program and Form of Template Agreement; Authorize Director of HWS to Release Request(s) for Proposals, Award and Execute Agreement with the Recommended Service Provider; District 5. [\$350,000 - 100% American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Find that the project is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3);
2. Authorize the Director of Housing and Workforce Solutions (HWS), or designee, to release request(s) for proposals for any eligible services necessary to implement the Homeless to Work Program;
3. Approve the form of the attached Homeless to Work Program Template Agreement (Template Agreement) for the agreement with the selected service provider under the Program;
4. Upon completion of the bid process, Authorize the Director of HWS, or designee, to submit and execute an Agreement for award of the contract, substantially conforming in form and substance to the Template Agreement, with the service provider selected for the Program as recommended for award by the evaluation team, in an amount not to exceed the funding amount approved under the Program, for a period commencing on or after September 1, 2023 and terminating no later than December 31, 2025, subject to availability of fiscal funding and as approved as to form by County Counsel, provided that, if any of the following occur, the award will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for action: there is a bid protest, the lowest bid exceeds the estimated budget, the low bidder is disqualified, two or more bids are the same and are the lowest, or a bidder requests relief from its bid due to an error; and
5. Authorize the Director of HWS, or designee, to take all steps necessary to implement the Homeless to Work Program including, but not limited to, signing subsequent essential and relevant documents, and executing any amendments that exercise the options of the Agreement including modifications of the statement of work that stay within the intent of the Agreement, subject to availability of fiscal funding and as approved as to form by County Counsel.

ACTION:Policy

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA


Heidi Marshall, Director 6/7/2023

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$ 0	\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 0
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
SOURCE OF FUNDS: 100% ARPA Funds			Budget Adjustment: No	
			For Fiscal Year: 2023/2024 - 2025/2026	

C.E.O. Recommendation: Approve

BACKGROUND:

The COVID-19 pandemic and the corresponding economic crisis have undermined the health and economic wellbeing of American workers. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 provided support to communities that have struggled in the wake of COVID-19. Specifically, ARPA provided \$130 billion in local funding for cities and counties. Of these funds, \$65 billion is allocated for counties based on the county’s population. Eligible uses of these funds include, but is not limited to, assistance to small businesses, households, hard-hit industries, and economic recovery.

As a result of the unprecedented surge in financial instability, labor shortages, and homelessness the County of Riverside Department of Housing and Workforce Solutions/Workforce Development Division (HWS/WDD) proposes to partner with a Service Provider to administer a transitional employment program called Homeless to Work. The Homeless to Work program aims to assist a minimum of 40 unemployed individuals experiencing homelessness (Participants) in the Pass Area, including the unincorporated community of Cabazon and cities of Beaumont and Banning (Service Area). The Service Provider will be selected via a Request for Proposals (RFP) and will serve as the Service Provider commencing September 2023 through December 31, 2025 (Program Term).

The Homeless to Work program is designed to be a 90-day subsidized employment program in which Participants will work a minimum of 20 subsidized hours per week on beautification projects located within the Service Areas. The Service Provider must also ensure Participants are suitable and eligible to partake in a transitional employment program, maintain full oversight of Participants during work hours, provide Participants with transportation to and from the worksite, and arrange placement of Participants into permanent full-time employment upon completion of Program Term. The Service Provider will also provide case management during the transitional employment program to ensure Participants are successful at completing and obtaining full-time permanent employment.

Service Provider will partner with local businesses, employers, cities, Riverside County resources and partners, as well as homeless service providers contracted with the County of Riverside Continuum of Care (CoC) through an executed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to implement an integrated and seamless service delivery process for the Homeless to

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Work Program. The CoC will work with the Service Provider to secure temporary and permanent housing for Participants. The Service Provider will also work with partner agencies to recruit unemployed individuals experiencing homelessness, conduct eligibility and suitability assessment with individuals recruited, and work in a team-based approach to accomplish goals of job development, employment assistance, case management, record keeping and reporting.

The proposed Homeless to Work agreement was reviewed and determined to be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), Common Sense, General Rule Exemption. The project relates to the provision of workforce services and employment and training activities for Riverside County adults and employers. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the aforementioned services may have a significant effect on the environment and will not lead to any direct or reasonable indirect physical environmental impacts, as they will have purely financial and administrative impacts.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

Approving the Homeless to Work Program Agreement will serve a transformative role in revitalizing local economies experiencing high levels of homelessness and unemployment. It is anticipated that this program will strengthen employment opportunities for homeless individuals who have been disconnected from the workforce. Local business will gain the opportunities to address labor shortages. At the same time, residents in the service area will benefit from the community improvement projects within their neighborhoods.

Additional Fiscal Information

The full cost of this project is \$350,000. The funding source is strictly ARPA funds.

ATTACHMENT:

- Homeless to Work Program Template Agreement


Brianna Lontajo, Principal Management Analyst 6/21/2023


Lisa Sanchez, Deputy County Counsel 6/14/2023


Kristine Bell-Valdez, Supervising Deputy County Counsel 6/14/2023