

September 10, 2024

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation to receive and file Contract No. 36725 with April Parker Foundation Inc., of Long Beach, CA, for providing rapid rehousing services for people experiencing homelessness within Long Beach, made pursuant to Chapters 2.69 and 2.85 of the Long Beach Municipal Code (LBMC) and in response to the proclaimed emergency for people experiencing homelessness, in an annual amount not to exceed \$323,570 for the term of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024; and,

Recommendation to authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute all documents necessary including any subgrants or subsequent amendments to amend Contracts Nos. 36723 and No.36722 with First to Serve, Inc., of Los Angeles, CA; Contracts Nos. 36724 and No.36677 with Interval House, of Long Beach, CA, and Contract No. 36725 with April Parker Foundation Inc., of Long Beach, CA, for providing homeless prevention and rapid rehousing services, to increase the annual aggregate contract amount by \$405,640, for a revised annual aggregate contract amount not to exceed \$2,704,417, and extend the terms of Contracts Nos. 36723 and No. 36722 with First to Serve, Inc., Contract No. 36724 with Interval House, and Contract No. 36725 with April Parker Foundation Inc. to June 30, 2025, and Contract No. 36677 with Interval House to September 30, 2025. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

On January 10, 2023, the City Council proclaimed a local emergency caused by conditions or threatened conditions of homelessness within the City of Long Beach (City), which if not corrected, constituted an imminent and proximate threat to the safety of persons and property within the City, in accordance with the provisions of LBMC Chapter 2.69. The mission of the emergency was to reduce the number of persons experiencing homelessness in the City and region by increasing housing opportunities and enhancing current initiatives. This includes providing field-based outreach, engagement, and supportive services while maintaining the safety and security of the people experiencing homelessness, the general public and staff, and improving overall public safety for the entire community.

At its meeting on June 13, 2023, the City Council awarded contracts to First to Serve, Inc., and Interval House as part of its adoption of Request for Proposals (RFP) HE-23-190 for rapid rehousing (RRH) and homeless prevention services for one year through September 30, 2023, in an annual aggregate contract amount of \$993,118, with the option to renew for an additional one-year period through September 30, 2024. Contracts No. 36723 and No. 36722 with First to

Serve, Inc. and Contract No. 36724 with Interval House were issued with an initial term of March 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. The City of Long Beach Homeless Services Bureau (HSB) requests authority to extend these contracts through June 30, 2025. Contract No. 36677 with Interval House was written with an initial term of March 1, 2023, to September 30, 2024. The HSB requests authority to extend this contract through September 20, 2025.

At its meeting on May 21, 2024, the City Council increased the annual aggregate contract amount by \$469,598 for a revised annual aggregate contract amount of \$1,462,716 and increased the annual aggregate contract amount for the renewal terms of the contracts by \$787,060, for a new annual aggregate contract amount of \$2,249,777. The HSB requests to add an additional \$454,640 to the annual aggregate contract amount for a revised annual aggregate contract amount not to exceed \$2,704,417.

On December 4, 2023, the City executed Contract No. 36725 with April Parker Foundation, Inc. to provide RRH services for adults experiencing homelessness within the City. Authorization for the contract was granted through the provisions of the Homelessness Emergency, and this contract was developed using the April Parker Foundation's response to RFP No. HE-23-190. The object of RRH is to move individuals into permanent housing as quickly as possible, and to achieve housing stability through a combination of rental assistance and supportive services. Adding April Parker Foundation as a provider of RRH services allowed the City to house people experiencing homelessness in an expeditious manner. The HSB requests authority to extend this contract through June 30, 2025. The April Parker Foundation, Inc. is a local vendor located in Long Beach.

RFP No. HE-23-190 was advertised in the Long Beach Press Telegram on December 15, 2022, and 167 potential proposers specializing in RRH and homeless prevention were notified of the RFP opportunity. Of those proposers, 48 downloaded the RFP via the City's electronic bid system. The RFP document was made available from the Purchasing Division, located on the sixth floor of City Hall, and the Division's website at www.longbeach.gov/purchasing. An RFP announcement was also included in the Purchasing Division's weekly update of Open Bid Opportunities, which is sent to 44 local, minority-owned, and women-owned business groups. There were 6 proposals received on January 26, 2023. Of those 6 proposals, 3 were Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBEs), 2 were Women-owned Business Enterprises (WBEs), 2 were certified Small Business Enterprises (SBEs), and 1 was a Long Beach vendor (Local). The selection committee determined that First to Serve, Inc. (MBE) was the most qualified firm to provide homeless prevention services, and Interval House (Local) was the most qualified firm to provide RRH services for the City. April Parker Foundation Inc., who also responded to the open, fair, and transparent RFP, was later awarded pursuant to Chapters 2.69 and 2.85 of the LBMC and in response to the proclaimed emergency for people experiencing homelessness.

These contracts strive to expand and enhance the services available for persons experiencing, or at imminent risk of homelessness. The RRH projects will provide funding to assist persons experiencing homelessness with housing search and placement, short- and medium-term financial assistance, rental assistance, as well as case management and supportive services designed to help participants achieve housing stability. The homeless prevention program will provide short-term, targeted interventions to immediately address and resolve a housing crisis to prevent an episode of homelessness.

These activities are funded through annual allocations of Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) funding received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), as well as Los Angeles County Measure H funding received via an operating agreement with the Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office.

The ESG is a formula allocation from HUD as part of the City Consolidated Plan, which the Department of Community Development, Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau manages. The HSB implements this component of the Consolidated Plan, in addition to the HOME move-in deposit assistance program, as leveraged resources to the Continuum of Care (CoC) system. The purpose of the ESG program is to provide funding for emergency shelter, outreach services, rapid rehousing, and homelessness prevention projects that work in collaboration with the broader CoC system in Long Beach.

In March 2017, Measure H was passed by Los Angeles County voters to create a quarter-cent sales tax to create a revenue stream dedicated to addressing and preventing homelessness in Los Angeles County. Measure H funds are designed to enable County departments, agencies, cities, and non-profit service providers with developing, implementing, coordinating, operating, and managing a comprehensive regional approach to homelessness, which includes funding for homelessness prevention, street outreach, interim housing, permanent housing, affordable housing, and supportive services for persons experiencing and/or at imminent risk of homelessness.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Anita Lakhani and Administrative Analyst Tommy Ryan on August 13, 2024, and by Budget Analysis Officer Greg Sorensen on August 22, 2024.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action to amend Contracts No., 36723, No. 36722, No. 36724, No. 36725, and No. 36677, and to receive and file Contract No. 36725, is requested on September 10, 2024, to ensure there is no interruption to services.

EQUITY STATEMENT

The City has incorporated the Equity Toolkit and strategies outlined in the Everyone Home Long Beach plan into this recommendation as requested by the City Council by increasing the shelter inventory in Long Beach. The recommendation will assist people experiencing homelessness in Long Beach who are at increased vulnerability by providing interim housing services in a Housing-First model.

FISCAL IMPACT

The requested action increases the contract authority with First to Serve, Inc., Interval House, and April Parker Foundation by \$454,640. The annual aggregate contract amount of the contracts will not exceed \$2,704,417. Expenses for these contracts are offset by grant funding

from the ESG from HUD and Measure H funding through the Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office. With the Department of Community Development serving as the lead agency for administering homeless services grants across the Long Beach CoC, ESG program expenses incurred by the Department of Health and Human Services are being transferred to the Community Development Department on a quarterly basis, where ESG program funding is currently appropriated. Sufficient funds are appropriated in the Health Fund Group in the Health and Human Services Department and the Community Development Grants Fund Group in the Community Development Department. Any indirect costs that are not eligible for grant funds will be funded by the General Fund, or other eligible grant funds. There is no match or in-kind service mandate. This recommendation has no staffing impact beyond the normal budgeted scope of duties and is consistent with existing City Council priorities. The award of this contract will provide continued support to our local economy by assisting in the preservation of employment for eight employees residing in Long Beach.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



Alison King
Director
Health and Human Services

APPROVED:



THOMAS B. MODICA
CITY MANAGER