

Our City, Our Home (OCOH) Oversight Committee

Housing Liaison Meeting 9/20/23

Attendees:

- Shanell Williams, Chair, OCOH Oversight Committee
- Jennifer Friedenbach, Member, OCOH Oversight Committee
- Michelle Cunningham-Denning, Member, OCOH Oversight Committee
- Scott Walton, Member, OCOH Oversight Committee
- Gigi Whitley, Deputy Director of Administration and Finance, Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH)
- Marion Sanders, Chief Deputy Director, HSH
- Christine Rolan, Budget Director, HSH
- Laura Marshall, Project Manager, Controller's Office
- Ivy Huwald, Performance Analyst, Controller's Office

Meeting Purpose

Participants gathered to discuss the current state of the Family and Youth Housing funding categories, and to consider options for use of the unallocated funding within these categories. This matter will be discussed by the full committee at the September 28, 2023 OCOH Oversight Committee meeting.

Updated Budget and Revenue Outlook for Family

- HSH staff reported that FY22-23 revenue actuals finalized in August showed a \$65 million shortfall. This was news as of August, and not known during the FY23-24 budget process discussed last spring.
- There is still a modest amount of room to program dollars into ongoing funding, but HSH recommends conservative spending due to anticipated ongoing weakened revenue.
 - So far, revenue has been 20-25% short each year, and continued revenue volatility is eating into one-time funds, and making it harder to sustain ongoing costs.
 - HSH has applied for two pending State Homekey grants for TAY housing sites, and if awarded, this may help free up one-time acquisition funds for other purposes.
- HSH will have a fuller picture of FY23-24 revenue projections by the November OCOH meeting, where the Controller's Office is scheduled to provide an update about current year revenue.

TAY and Family Housing Categories

- **TAY Housing budget for FY23-24:** After addressing the impacts of the prior-year revenue shortfall in the current year budget, the TAY Housing category includes \$10.7 million in one-time funding and \$7.4 million ongoing.
- **Family Housing budget for FY23-24:** Revenue came in about \$8 million short but there are still significant one-time money including expenditure reserves and 6 million in acquisition from repayment for the Margot.

Member Proposals for the Use of the Fund

- Member Friedenbach reported that she has been working with TAY and family stakeholders to develop potential plan for spending unallocated funds within the TAY and Family Housing categories.
 - o It was noted that these unallocated funds have already been appropriated by the Board in the current budget, and therefore a lengthy supplemental appropriation is not necessary in order to approve a spending plan for these dollars.
- Member Friedenbach proposed adding 5-year subsidies for families, which may be similar to a Rapid Rehousing program with an extended time period to allow families to stabilize.
- Member Friedenbach proposed adding new 3-Year Rapid Rehousing subsidies for youth to address the phasing out of other private sources of the Rising Up program and serving new youth clients. She also proposed adding Rapid Rehousing subsidies targeted at youth experiencing interpersonal violence.
- Based on new budget information, Member Friedenbach may adjust this set of proposals, including the number of subsidies proposed. This set of proposals will be discussed at the September 28, 2023 OCOH Oversight Committee meeting. HSH staff will be there to answer any technical questions. The agenda item will be an action item to allow for the Committee to take a vote on recommendations, though there was also discussion that the Committee may want to take more time to hear from other members and discuss the implications of the changing revenue outlook before taking action.