



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE**  
**City Commission Agenda Memo**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**#19-0839**

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**TO:** Honorable Mayor & Members of the  
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM:** Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

**DATE:** September 3, 2019

**TITLE:** Motion Accepting Grant HL110 from the State of Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) to Provide Rapid Rehousing Financial Assistance for Persons and Families Experiencing Homelessness in Fort Lauderdale in the Amount of \$250,000 - **(Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)**

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**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the City Commission approve a motion authorizing the City Manager to accept Grant HL110 from the State of Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and execute the grant agreement in substantially the form attached subject to City Attorney review and approval and any documents associated with the Rapid Rehousing Program that expands Fort Lauderdale's efforts to provide a comprehensive homeless strategy that leverages resources and unifies a collaborative effort to ending homelessness in Fort Lauderdale in the amount of \$250,000 retroactive to July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

**Background**

In January 2019 the City submitted a legislative funding request for a Rapid Re-housing Program providing time-limited financial support for homeless individuals and families in Fort Lauderdale. The Florida Legislature and Governor approved the request in the State's Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget through a \$250,000 grant from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. This grant does not require any matching funds.

Funds will be used to provide financial assistance and services for those individuals and families experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. The project provides a variety of assistance, such as short-term or medium-term rental assistance, including utility deposit assistance, and appropriate support services with case management to help homeless individuals and families achieve self-sufficiency.

The Rapid Rehousing Program is consistent with the Florida Council on Homelessness recommendations for reducing homelessness in the state at well as the Federal Government's Opening Doors to prevent and end homelessness. The funding will not only support the homeless within Fort Lauderdale; it will also serve as an additional

financial match that will aid in securing additional funding for homeless initiatives from the U.S. Housing and Community Development Department (HUD) and community partners. This project supports the Broward County Continuum of Care Plan to End Homelessness as one of the single most important interventions in the fight to end homelessness. According to the 2019 Point in Time Homeless Count there were 1,453 homeless persons living in shelters and 1,350 homeless persons living on the street, unsheltered throughout Broward County. Much of the unsheltered population lives in Fort Lauderdale. This program will provide time-limited housing solutions for homeless individuals/families residing in Fort Lauderdale through service providers, and leveraged partnerships.

### **Resource Impact**

This action will result in a \$250,000 positive impact to the City, which will be appropriated to the accounts below contingent upon the approval of the Consolidated Budget Amendment CAM 19-0833.

### **Source:**

<i>Funds available as of July 12, 2019</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	INDEX NAME (Program)	CHARACTER CODE/ SUB-OBJECT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	AMOUNT
129- GHMLESS19 - D414	Rapid Rehousing Assistance Grant	Intergovernmental Revenue/Florida Department of Economic Opportunity	\$0	\$0	\$250,000
<b>APPROPRIATION TOTAL</b> ►					\$250,000

### **Use:**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	INDEX NAME (Program)	CHARACTER CODE/ SUB-OBJECT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	AMOUNT
129- GHMLESS19 - 3199	Rapid Rehousing Assistance Grant	Services/ Materials/ Other Professional Services	\$0	\$0	\$250,000
<b>APPROPRIATION TOTAL</b> ►					\$250,000

### **Strategic Connections**

This item is a *Commission Annual Action Plan* priority, included within the Top Priority, advancing the Homelessness Response and Action Plan effort.

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Public Places Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 3: Be a community that finds opportunities and leverages partnerships to create unique, inviting and connected gathering places that highlight our beaches, waterways, urban areas, and parks.
  - Objective 5: Work with partners to reduce homelessness by promoting

independence and self-worth through advocacy, housing, and comprehensive services.

- Initiative 2: Implement a comprehensive short and long-term strategy with community partners to address homelessness.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are Community*.

**Related CAM**

#19-0833 - Consolidated Budget Amendment

**Attachment**

Exhibit 1 – State of Florida Department Of Economic Opportunity Grant Agreement

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Prepared by: Hal G. Barnes, P.E., Neighbor Support Manager

Department Director: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager's Office