



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 08/10/2021

REQUESTER: Lisa Krieg, CDBG Grants Planner

PRESENTER: Lisa Krieg, CDBG Grants Planner

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF A NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT CORONA RELIEF 2 FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$400,000 FROM THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOR THE OPERATION OF THE CITY OF NORMAN EMERGENCY SHELTER.

BACKGROUND:

To assist in addressing the current financial impact associated with the COVID-19 crisis to households in Norman, the CARES Act included funding to be distributed utilizing the existing Emergency Solutions Grant formula to all Continuum of Care entities in Oklahoma. The Norman/Cleveland County Continuum of Care (OK 504) was awarded a total of \$1,080,002 from the ESG-CR2 allocation. These funds were distributed to the Oklahoma Department of Commerce by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Norman/Cleveland County Continuum of Care determined the funding be allocated as follows: City of Norman Emergency Shelter \$400,000; Food and Shelter, Inc. \$430,002; and Thunderbird Clubhouse \$250,000.

DISCUSSION:

The shelter was initially operated in the old library as a winter warming shelter for the 2019-2020 season funded entirely by the City of Norman. With the 2020-2021 season the City of Norman has received to date a total of \$188,502 from the ESG CR1 allocation for the operation of the shelter. The shelter operation was initially extended to June 30, 2021 and then a determination was made to operate the shelter year around with an appropriation of \$80,000 by the Norman City Council on June 8, 2021. This action allowed for the appropriation of funding to bridge the gap between the availability of ESG-CR grant funds.

This ESG-CR2 application covers the continuation of the emergency, low-barrier, housing focused overnight shelter located at 325 E. Comanche, Norman, OK. The amount requested is \$400,000 for the time frame of September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022. This is the only temporary, low barrier emergency shelter throughout the City of Norman and Cleveland County.

Approval of subsequent contract from the Oklahoma Department of Commerce and appropriation of funding will be on the City Council Agenda at a later date.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of the submittal of an application in the amount of \$400,000 to the Oklahoma Department of Commerce for the Emergency Solutions Grant CR2 Program.