

# CITY COUNCIL MEETING

# STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: November 18, 2024			Subject: Resolution No. 3183 A Resolution of the City of Wilsonville Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement Between Clackamas County and City of Wilsonville to Fund City-Led Initiatives Addressing Homelessness Staff Member: Amanda Guile-Hinman, City Attorney Department: Legal		
Action Required			Advisory Board/Commission Recommendation		
$\boxtimes$	Motion			Approval	
	Public Hearing Date:	[		Denial	
	Ordinance 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading Date	e: [		None Forwarded	
	Ordinance 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Date:		🖂 Not Applicable		
$\boxtimes$	Resolution		Comments: N/A		
	Information or Direction				
	Information Only				
	Council Direction				
	Consent Agenda				
Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends Council adopt Resolution No. 3183.					
Recommended Language for Motion: I move to adopt Resolution No. 3183.					
Project / Issue Relates To:					
			ted	Master Plan(s):	□Not Applicable
Increase housing opportunities for all and reach functional zero homelessness					

# **ISSUE BEFORE COUNCIL:**

Whether to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with Clackamas County to utilize Metro Supportive Housing Services funding for certain initiatives to reduce and/or prevent homelessness in Wilsonville.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

In May 2020, voters within the Portland metro area approved Measure 26-210 to fund services for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Metro collaborates with the three counties – Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington Counties – to fund efforts to reduce and prevent homelessness through this new funding source.

In December 2023, Clackamas County provided notice to cities within Clackamas County of a funding opportunity for city-led homelessness initiatives. The City of Wilsonville submitted a proposal for such funding on January 31, 2024. The City collaborated with two of its local non-profit service providers, Wilsonville Community Sharing and Heart of the City, in preparing its proposal for homelessness initiatives to fund.

The City proposed six (6) initiatives: (1) motel vouchers for individuals and families who seek placement into longer-term housing, but have a gap of time before such placement can occur; (2) funding for auto repair services to aid individuals in maintaining their employment; (3) gas vouchers and clothing vouchers for individuals to maintain or interview for employment opportunities; (4) financial literacy training and services to help individuals maximize their income and plan for unexpected expenses; (5) low-cost mental health counseling; and (6) two charging stations at City facilities/parks to charge personal devices. *See* **Attachment 1** (January 31, 2024 City of Wilsonville Proposal).

The first five (5) proposals originated from information provided by Wilsonville Community Sharing and Heart of the City regarding the greatest needs they witnessed working with individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The final proposal resulted from the anonymous survey of individuals experiencing homelessness that the City performed when updating its public camping regulations. Respondents overwhelmingly noted the lack of opportunities to charge phones as a significant barrier. The proposals seek to help some of Wilsonville's most vulnerable. For example, the proposed motel vouchers can help up to four families each month with immediate, temporary shelter and the vehicle repair funding can help between two and four requesters each month. These efforts will reduce the likelihood that individuals and families have nowhere to stay or no way to get to and from work.

The County awarded the City funding for all of its proposals except the mental health counseling, and the County committed to working with the City and its local providers on other opportunities within the County to address mental health needs. For the first four (4) proposals, the County authorized funding for two (2) fiscal years (July 1, 2024-June 30, 2026) **totaling \$499,600**. The charging stations are one-time capital expenses for this fiscal year (July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025), **totaling \$7,500**.

Combined, the County is planning to provide the City <u>\$507,100</u> over the two fiscal years to fund homelessness reduction and prevention programs.

The City anticipates that the first four (4) proposals will be managed through subcontract(s) with Wilsonville Community Sharing and Heart of the City. The City will manage the installation of the two charging stations.

#### **EXPECTED RESULTS:**

Staff anticipates that the funds provided by Metro through Clackamas County will significantly increase the help that the City and its service providers can provide to community members experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness. Staff has seen how issues, such as a needed clutch replacement in a vehicle, can have devastating effects on a person who is employed but at risk of homelessness. Staff and local service providers identified the city-led initiatives in the proposal to address needs specific to Wilsonville community members who experience homelessness or are at risk of homelessness.

Wilsonville Community Sharing and Heart of the City have each seen the numbers of people in need seeking services balloon this year compared to last year, which was significantly higher than the year prior. For example, Wilsonville Community Sharing had 252 individuals utilize its food pantry in August, then 275 in September, and 333 in October of this year. The number of families have also increased over the same time period and the number of families who utilized the food pantry more than one time in a month increased from 26 (August) to 34 (September) to 59 (October). The Metro funds will not only free up other funds and donations local service providers currently receive, the Metro funds will also expand the services that local providers are able to offer.

# TIMELINE:

The necessary agreements and signatures between Clackamas County, the City, and the local providers are anticipated to take a few weeks and local service providers will need to work with the County to obtain access to its reporting system. Staff anticipates that the funds will be available and used at the beginning of calendar year 2025.

# CURRENT YEAR BUDGET IMPACTS:

Staff anticipated the funds would be made available this fiscal year, and so the funds are already documented in the City's budget.

# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROCESS:

Staff collaborated closely with Wilsonville Community Sharing and Heart of the City in developing the proposals to Clackamas County. Staff also relied on the anonymous survey to individuals experiencing homelessness to better understand their needs.

# POTENTIAL IMPACTS OR BENEFIT TO THE COMMUNITY:

Homelessness is one of the most impactful issues facing communities across the country. The Supportive Housing Services funds represent an opportunity to take meaningful steps to help individuals and families experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

#### ALTERNATIVES:

Council could decide not to accept the funds and forgo these opportunities to help individuals and families experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

#### **CITY MANAGER COMMENT:**

N/A

#### ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. City of Wilsonville Proposal to Clackamas County dated January 31, 2024
- 2. Resolution No. 3183
  - A. Intergovernmental Agreement