

## Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government DIVISION OF GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Jim Gray Mayor Sally Hamilton CAO

TO:

JIM GRAY, MAYOR

URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

FROM:

IRENE GOODING, DIRECTOR

DIVISION OF GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

DATE:

MARCH 17, 2014

SUBJECT:

Request Council authorization to approve amendments to the

Emergency Solutions Grants Program in the 2012 and 2013

Consolidated Plans, providing for revisions to the Rapid Rehousing and Homelessness Prevention Plan, increasing the amount of funding

for Rapid Rehousing, decreasing the amount of funding for

Homelessness Prevention, and eliminating Homelessness Prevention funding allocated to the Lexington Rescue Mission, and reallocating these funds to the LFUCG Division of Adult and Tenant Services

Amendments are proposed to the 2012 and 2013 Consolidated Plans. The 2012 Consolidated Plan was approved by the Urban County Council on April 26, 2012 (Resolution No. 200-2012), and the 2013 Consolidated Plan was approved by the Urban County Council on April 25, 2013 (Resolution No. 175-2013). Both plans included use of federal funds under the Emergency Solutions Grants Program for Rapid Rehousing for homeless households and Homelessness Prevention for households who are at risk of homelessness.

An amendment is proposed to both the 2012 and 2013 Consolidated Plans providing for a revision to the levels of assistance to be provided to clients under both Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing. Under the revised plan, clients may be assisted up to 100% of rent for a period of three months, with decreasing amounts over the second three months. Clients whose rent does not include utilities may be assisted with utilities of up to 100% for the full six months. Clients may also be assisted with deposits for rent and utilities and may be assisted with utility arrearages if payment is necessary in order for them to move into a rental unit.

In order to assist individuals and families who are literally homeless, an amendment to the 2012 Consolidated Plan is proposed as follows: reduce the amount of homelessness prevention funds by \$30,000 and increase the amount of rapid rehousing funds by \$30,000.

The 2013 Consolidated Plan provided for funding in the amount of \$23,861 to the Lexington Rescue Mission for operation of homelessness prevention services. This organization has determined that it is unable to operate this program and has turned down

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receipt of these funds. This amendment proposes that these funds now be reallocated to the LFUCG Division of Adult and Tenant Services for Rapid Rehousing and Homelessness Prevention. The 50% match for this program has been requested in the 2015 General Fund Budget. \$17,722 will be used for homelessness prevention and \$30,000 will be used for rapid rehousing.

Council authorization to amend the 2012 and 2013 Consolidated Plans is hereby requested, subject to the availability of sufficient funds in FY 2015.

Irene Gooding, Director

Xc: Sally Hamilton, Chief Administrative Officer

Beth Mills, Commissioner of the Department of Social Services