

Sonoma County Community Development Commission Sonoma County Housing Authority

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MEMORANDUM

Date: November 20, 2024

To: Community Development Committee

From: Martha Cheever, Deputy Director

Subject: Commitment of Project Based Vouchers to Support Permanent Supportive Housing

Project Based Vouchers (PBV) are an important tool in the development of affordable housing. PBVs provide predictable and sustainable operating revenue and ensure that the most vulnerable members of our community have safe and affordable housing. This predictable revenue is even more important when developing permanent supportive housing as these projects require additional funding to provide enhanced services for the tenants in the units.

The Board of Commissioners of the Sonoma County Community Development Commission have prioritized the need to end homelessness in Sonoma County. The Five-Year Strategic Plan approved in March of 2021 and the Sonoma County Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, both identify a goal to expand permanent supportive housing in Sonoma County.

It is anticipated that the California Department of Housing and Community Development will be making an estimated \$2.25Billion available for the development of permanent supportive housing through the Homekey+ program. While the Housing Authority is not in a financial position to release a request for proposals ("RFP") for PBVs at this time, a resolution committing 150 project-based vouchers to permanent supportive housing will be beneficial to Homekey+ applicants from Sonoma County. When funding is available, the Housing Authority will release an RFP for 150 PBVs specifically designated for permanent supportive housing. Following the RFP, any and all recommendations for specific commitments of project-based vouchers will be brought back before this Committee for recommendation and approval.

Recommended Action: Recommend the Board of Commissioners of the Sonoma County Community Development Commission approve a resolution committing 150 future project-based vouchers to support the development of permanent supportive housing.



