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AGENDA REPORT

TO: JOHN A FLORES
INTERIM CITY ADMINISTRATOR

FROM: Sara Bedford

SUBJECT: MOU with Alameda County Probation
Violence Prevention Relocation Program

DATE: February 6, 2015

City Administrator
Approval

Date

2/10/15

COUNCIL DISTRICT: City-Wide

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the City Administrator to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Alameda County Probation Department establishing a Pilot Violence Prevention Relocation Program, to facilitate coordinated implementation of emergency relocation services for witnesses and victims of violent crime.

OUTCOME

Council authorization for the City Administrator to enter into an MOU with the Alameda County Probation Department will allow Alameda County Probation Department and the City of Oakland's Human Services Department to coordinate services and funding for individuals who are on active Probation in Alameda County and are in real danger or harm where they reside in Oakland. The funding will help them transition to a safer location.

BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Oakland Unite, in the City's Human Services Department (HSD), oversees the City's Shooting and Homicide Response Network. The network includes a weekly shooting and homicide response team. This team is a partnership between the Crisis Response & Support Network (Youth ALIVE! and Catholic Charities), CeaseFire Case Managers, Highland Hospital, Oakland Street Outreach teams at Healthy Oakland, and California Youth Outreach who are led by HSD Violence Prevention Network Coordinator Kevin Grant. The teams meet weekly to wrap

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coordinated support services around victims of gun violence and the families and friends of young homicide victims in Oakland.

On September 23, 2014, Oakland City Council approved Resolution No. 85177 C.M.S., a funding from the California Board of State and Community Corrections (CBSCC) (Recidivism Reduction Funds) to address a need that the Shooting and Homicide Response Network had identified – an emergency relocation system for shooting victims, family members of homicide victims and CeaseFire or Street Outreach clients.

AB 109, the Realignment Act, was passed in 2011. It transfers responsibility for supervising certain kinds of felony offenders and state prison parolees from state prisons and state parole agents to the local level. Following the enactment of the AB 109 Realignment Act, the Realignment Housing Program was developed by Alameda County to assist formerly incarcerated AB 109 participants, who were homeless or at high-risk of homelessness and under the jurisdiction of the Probation Department for a realigned offense. The Realignment Housing Program focuses on securing permanent housing, and also provides a broad range of housing-related services such as emergency shelter, shelter diversion, housing-related financial supports, and housing case management. The Alameda County Probation Department would like to utilize the Realignment Housing Program for supporting emergency relocation services, and has requested an MOU with the City of Oakland to formalize resource coordination.

Oakland Unite and Alameda County Probation Department have been meeting since the fall of 2014 to coordinate these resources for emergency relocation services for different populations. All parties are committed to coordinating resources and services to improve the public safety of Oakland residents.

ANALYSIS

Witnesses and victims of violent crime often fear for their safety, and are in real and immediate danger of retaliation and/or further violence. In order to support these individuals, temporary or permanent relocation to a different locale may be the best solution to ensure their safety, and/or the safety of others. California's Victim Compensation Program provides housing, shelter and relocation services for victims of violent crime. However, applications for these resources take time to process, and often individuals on probation and/or parole are deemed ineligible or require further screening, leaving them in further risk of violence.

The funds Oakland Unite received from the CBSCC includes support for developing a pilot relocation program, focusing on those who are unable to access the Victim Compensation Program resources, or for whom such resources are insufficient for successful relocation. This pilot program includes meeting with partners, developing protocols and referral systems,

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relocating individuals, and working with an evaluator to incorporate best practices and identify appropriate outcome measures.

Establishing an MOU with the Alameda County Probation Department will allow Oakland Unite to coordinate and leverage the CBSCC resources and services, and refer individuals to Probation who may qualify for their relocation support, as well ensure compliance with probation and/or court mandates. The MOU will include the relocation services and resources Alameda County Probation Department and the City of Oakland will respectively provide (i.e. staff assignment to the program, referral process, communication expectations, etc.).

PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

As mentioned earlier, HSD has been working with Alameda County Probation to develop this pilot relocation program. Other key partners who have been consulted and/or involved in planning include: Alameda County Housing and Community Development Department, Catholic Charities of the East Bay, East Oakland Community Partnership, and Resource Development Associates (RDA).

COORDINATION

In addition to coordinating with the external entities mentioned, this report was developed in consultation with the Offices of the City Attorney and Controller's Bureau.

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

CBSCC funding for the relocation program has already been approved by Council via Resolution No. 85177 C.M.S. The MOU being developed will allow Oakland Unite to refer clients that meet eligibility criteria to Alameda County Probation Department and the Alameda County Housing and Community Development Department for reimbursement of relocation costs. There is no impact to the City's General Fund.

PAST PERFORMANCE, EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

This is a pilot program, therefore there is no past evaluation to reference. RDA was approved by Council to provide evaluation support for CBSCC funded programs, and will be assisting in program development and the development of process and outcome evaluation measures.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: Providing relocation support services for Oakland residents affected by violence will improve their economic stability by linking them to organizations and programs geared to produce positive outcomes around recidivism reduction, educational achievement, and employment. Breaking the cycle of violence has the potential to reduce expenses in medical care, police services, and incarceration costs, among other costs.

Environmental: By expanding social services to and improving opportunities for those most impacted by violence, marginalized communities are made safer, healthier, and stronger through the sustained development of its most disenfranchised members.

Social Equity: Relocation services will help clients achieve a greater degree of social equity by expanding employment opportunities and providing support services in the areas of crisis response, housing support, and case management.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Peter Kim, Oakland Unite Manager, at 510-238-2374.

Respectfully submitted,


SARA BEDFORD, Director
Human Services Department

Oakland Unite Division
Reviewed by: Peter Kim, Manager
Prepared by: Priya Jagannathan, Planner

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Approved as to Form and Legality


City Attorney

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH ALAMEDA COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHING A PILOT VIOLENCE PREVENTION RELOCATION PROGRAM TO FACILITATE COORDINATED IMPLEMENTATION OF EMERGENCY RELOCATION SERVICES FOR WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIME

WHEREAS, witnesses and victims of violent crime often fear for their safety, and are in real and immediate danger of retaliation and/or further violence; in order to support these individuals, temporary or permanent relocation to a different locale may be the best solution to ensure their safety; and

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2014, Oakland City Council approved funding from the California Board of State and Community Corrections (Recidivism Reduction Funds) to begin developing an emergency relocation system for shooting victims, family members of homicide victims and Ceasefire or Street Outreach clients; and

WHEREAS, following the enactment of the AB109 Realignment Act, the Realignment Housing Program was developed by Alameda County under the jurisdiction of the Probation Department to assist formerly incarcerated AB 109 participants, who were homeless or at high-risk of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland's Human Services Department (HSD), Oakland Unite division, and Alameda County Probation Department have been meeting since the fall of 2014 to coordinate these resources for emergency relocation services, and are committed to coordinating resources and services to improve the public safety of Oakland residents; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland wishes to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Alameda County Probation to formalize the coordination of these resources; and

WHEREAS, section 504(l) of the City Charter authorizes the City Administrator to enter into intergovernmental agreements subject to City Council approval; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Administrator is hereby authorized to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Alameda County Probation Department to coordinate resources and services for emergency relocation services for witnesses and victims of violent crime for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, with an option to renew if both parties agree; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Administrator is authorized to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, modifications, and related actions which may be necessary in accordance with this resolution's basic purpose; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That said agreement shall be reviewed as to form and legality by the Office of the City Attorney and copies will be filed in the Office of the City Clerk.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLEN, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, AND
PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST _____

LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California