

Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee Community Liaison Meeting #3
Homelessness Prevention
April 18, 2023

Present: Nina Catalano (Our City, Our Home Oversight Committee), Amy Sawyer (Mayor's Office), Gigi Whitley (Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing), Noelle Simmons (HSH), Christine Rolan (HSH), Hugo Ramirez (Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development), Jessica Shimmin (Controller's Office)

Key Questions

1. What questions do Liaisons/Members have about the budget proposals?

- What is the ideal balance between diversion and prevention?
 - i. It may become necessary to look for alternate funding sources to expand.
- Request to see the program types that go into eviction prevention and housing stabilization category?

2. Where do you see alignment between the Liaison draft recommendations and the budget proposals presented on 4/14?

- Protected targeted homelessness prevention and eviction prevention services.
- Shallow subsidies added to permanent housing (prevention has a funding cap vs floor).

3. What are your concerns, Liaisons/Members? What adjustments do you suggest?

- Questions about problem solving- those services are closest to being cut because of the one-time finding. And, is this what is best for the system? The Department wants to test these strategies, and then look at the budget holistically, not just, "last one in, first one out."
- Perhaps moving behavioral health services in legacy psh to mental health section?

OCOH Homelessness Prevention Liaison Recommendations

1. Recommend protecting and increasing funding for targeted homelessness prevention.
 - These investments should be scaled to meet the need in the system.
2. Recommend protecting funding for Eviction Prevention programs.
 - Tenant right to counsel shows a high success rate with full-scope legal services, particularly among households who identify as Black, African American, or African.
3. Recommend adding shallow subsidies to the Homelessness Prevention portfolio if additional funding is available.
 - Add shallow subsidies to the targeted homelessness prevention strategies to serve households stuck in an economic sustainability crisis loop.

OCOH Homelessness Prevention Proposed Budget (presented by HSH at the April 14, 2023 special meeting)

What's in the budget:

- Maintains the investment plan for prevention services; doesn't add or take away services.
- Relies on one-time fund balance to maintain service levels through FY25
- Relies on prior year fund balance to continue problem solving initiatives for TAY, families, veterans and justice involved adults.
- The proposed budget projects that prevention reserves and carry forward appropriations will be exhausted at the end of FY24-25.

	2023-24 Approved	2023-24 Proposed	2024-25 Proposed
Homelessness Prevention and Financial Assistance	25,280,173	25,300,000	25,300,000
PSH Shallow Subsidies	6,752,000	6,752,000	6,955,000
Eviction Prevention and Housing Stabilization	12,200,000	12,250,000	12,250,000
Mental Health Services in Legacy PSH sites – DPH	2,915,120	2,915,000	3,003,000
HSH Allocated Costs	1,776,737	2,453,000	2,529,000
Total Ongoing Spending	48,924,030	49,670,000	50,037,000
Projected Prop C Revenue	48,924,030	44,890,000	45,500,000
<i>Annual Deficit</i>	-	<i>(4,780,000)</i>	<i>(4,537,000)</i>
One-time Fund balance		4,780,000	4,537,000

Problem Solving will continue in FY23-24 and FY24-25 using funds appropriated in a prior year and carried forward:

Population Served	FY23-24	FY24-25
Veterans/Justice-Involved Adults	\$3,350,000	\$3,350,000
Families	\$1,959,950	\$1,959,950
TAY (inc. Direct Cash Transfer pilot)	\$3,377,000	\$3,377,000
Workforce Assistance (OEWD)	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
Total	\$10,187,000	\$10,187,000