

2.17 Authorization to Apply for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Eviction Protection Grant Program.

Recommendation:

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Housing Director or his designee to apply for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Eviction Protection Grant Program Notice of Funding Opportunity to request \$2.5 million to support initiatives that enhance City investments in eviction services for both tenants and housing providers. CEQA: Not a Project, File No. PP17-006, Grant Application with no commitment or obligation to enter into an agreement at the time of application. (Housing)

CITY COUNCIL ACTION REQUEST

DEPARTMENT(S): Housing	CEQA: Not a Project, File No. PP17-006, Grant application with no commitment or obligation to enter into an agreement at the time of application.	COORDINATION: City Attorney's Office and City Manager's Budget Office	Director Approval: /s/ Erik L. Soliván
COUNCIL DISTRICT(S): Citywide			CMO Approval:  8/1/24

SUBJECT: Authorization to Apply for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Eviction Protection Grant Program

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Housing Director or his designee to apply for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Eviction Protection Grant Program Notice of Funding Opportunity to request \$2.5 million to support initiatives that enhance our investments in eviction services for both tenants and housing providers.

BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends City Council's authorization to apply for funding to increase investment in upstream opportunities that will mitigate evictions and achieve housing stability through collaborations with tenants and housing providers navigating their rights and accessing resources.

The City's existing Eviction Prevention Program demonstrates the positive impact of legal aid and community resource support for vulnerable tenants. If awarded, the funding would help sustain functions related to the Eviction Prevention Program, which includes a program that provides one-time financial aid to eligible participants and enhanced mediation strategies between tenants and housing providers. Approving this recommendation aligns with the Housing Department's strategies for the Rent Stabilization and Eviction Prevention Division and Housing Element Strategy S-12¹.

This notice of funding opportunity is based on the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's fiscal year which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30 of each year. As such, the funding period for this grant is considered the Department of Housing and Urban Development's 2023-2024 fiscal year.

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION AND INPUT

No commission recommendation or input is associated with this action.

COST AND FUNDING SOURCE

If approved, the recommended action will enable the Housing Department to submit a \$2.5 million grant application to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and leverage an existing \$2.0 million California state earmark and \$250,000 Measure E funding currently supporting the Eviction Prevention Program. The Housing Department will return to City Council as part of the City's future budget processes to appropriate any revenues awarded and to request approval to implement and augment the Eviction Prevention Program detailed in this memorandum. Administrative costs related to the Eviction Prevention Program are direct costs under this grant. This action will not result in any impacts to the General Fund.

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT: Emily Hislop, Division Manager, (408) 921-6643

¹ File: City of San José Housing Element, rev. Nov. 2023, Chapter 3: Housing Goals and Strategies, Strategy S-12, page 3-42
 Link: <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/107420/638370204948130000>

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE AUTHORIZING THE HOUSING DIRECTOR, OR THEIR DESIGNEE TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT EVICTION PROTECTION GRANT PROGRAM NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$2.5 MILLION, IN SUPPORT OF INITIATIVES THAT ENHANCE EVICTION SERVICES FOR BOTH TENANTS AND HOUSING PROVIDERS

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (“HUD”) Eviction Protection Grant Program (“Program”) has issued a Notice of Funding Opportunity (“NOFO”) for grantee nonprofit organizations and government entities to apply for up to \$2.5 million in grant funding to provide no cost legal assistance to low-income tenants at risk of or subject to eviction; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, the Program through this NOFO will provide no cost legal assistance to low-income tenants at risk of or subject to eviction and would help sustain functions related to the City’s Eviction Prevention Program, which also includes one-time assistance to mitigate evictions through collaborations with tenants and housing providers navigating their rights and accessing resources to achieve housing stability; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has prioritized emergency rental assistance and eviction prevention efforts which are critical to the ability of San José residents to achieve housing stability; and

WHEREAS, The City’s existing Eviction Prevention Program demonstrates the positive impact of legal aid and community resource support for vulnerable tenants facing eviction; and

WHEREAS, HUD’s Program aligns with the Housing Department’s strategies for the Rent Stabilization and Eviction and Prevention Division and Housing Element Strategy S-12;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE THAT:

The Housing Director, or the Housing Director’s designee, is hereby authorized to apply for and accept grant funds from the United States’ Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Eviction Protection Grant Program in an amount up to \$2.5 million in support of initiatives that enhance eviction services for both tenants and housing providers to promote housing stability.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2024, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

DISQUALIFIED:

MATT MAHAN
Mayor

ATTEST:

TONI J. TABER, CMC
City Clerk