


Agenda Report Reviewed by:
City Manager: 

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM

Meeting Date: September 7, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

From: City Administration

Subject: Memorandum of Understanding (Agreement) with West County Community Services (WCCS)

Recommendation Approve Memorandum of Understanding (Agreement) with West County Community Services (WCCS) to provide Homeless Outreach services in Greater Sebastopol for the term 07/01/2021 to 06/30/2022

Funding: Currently Budgeted: Yes No N/A

Net General Fund Cost: \$72,000

Department Fund: City Manager

If Cost to Other Fund(s),
Fund:

Account Code 100-11-02-4210 /Costs authorized \$72,000 in City Approved Budget (if applicable)
 AK (verified by Administrative Services Department)

INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE

This item is to request that the City Council Approve Memorandum of Understanding (Agreement) with West County Community Services (WCCS) to provide Homeless Outreach services in Greater Sebastopol for the term 07/01/2021 to 06/30/2022 .

BACKGROUND:

Homelessness affects our communities on a national, regional, and local level and Sebastopol has been challenged as well with how to positively impact the problem of homelessness and provide services with limited funding. At the City Council meeting of July 20, 2021, the City Council approved funding in the amount of \$72,000 to West County Community Services to provide homeless outreach services.

DISCUSSION:

City staff and WCCS, a multi-service human services agency for western Sonoma County, including Sebastopol, assists with community outreach and case management services, and works in collaboration to engage these individuals and connect them with services such as emergency housing, mental and health care, benefits counseling and a variety of other community based programs and services. It is not uncommon for individuals to be resistant to engagement at first but the more successful interventions are built upon a pattern of consistent engagement and building trust so that the individual will be in a position to accept the assistance that will lead to a lasting solution to their homelessness.

WCCS will begin the work of building a trusting relationship with and determining the needs of people living on the streets in greater Sebastopol. **Agenda Item Number 9**

Tonight's item is to approve the agreement with West County Community Services to provide the following services:

1. Refer people without homes to Coordinated Entry as appropriate
2. Represent WCCS at relevant meetings
3. Take leadership coordination role in homeless services
4. Develop relationships with clients and connect them to services
5. Develop citywide services matrix, including relevant county services, to inform both housed and unhoused communities on location and availability of services
6. Increase citywide understanding of laws around homelessness
7. Partner with City staff and first responders in homeless response
8. Develop volunteer/civic engagement opportunities around homelessness
9. Support Safe Parking efforts

It is proposed that WCCS provide quarterly reports to the City Council on the results of this outreach.

CITY COUNCIL AND/OR GENERAL PLAN GOALS:

Policy CHW 2-6: Support health care facilities and services that assist underserved populations, including minorities, disabled persons, and the homeless community.

Action CHW 5i: Coordinate with the Sonoma County Community Development Commission to support local and regional efforts to combat homelessness, including implementation of the recommendations and programs contained in the County's "Policy Makers Toolbox for Ending Homelessness" to the greatest extent feasible.

Policy D-6: Sebastopol will work to prevent homelessness and support housing services for the homeless.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

As of the writing of this staff report, the City has not received any public comment. However, if staff receives public comment from interested parties following the publication and distribution of this staff report such comments will be provided to the City Council as supplemental materials before or at the meeting. In addition, public comments on consent calendar items may be offered during the public comment portion of this item.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

This item was noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to schedule meeting date.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Cost associated with this request have been approved by the City Council in the FY 21-22 City Budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council Approve Memorandum of Understanding (Agreement) with West County Community Services (WCCS) to provide Homeless Outreach services in Greater Sebastopol for the term 07/01/2021 to 06/30/2022

Attachment(s):

Proposal



Memorandum of Understanding between West County Community Services (WCCS) and the City of Sebastopol

This Memorandum of Understanding (Agreement) stands as evidence that West County Community Services- (WCCS) will provide Homeless Outreach services in Greater Sebastopol for the term 07/01/2021 to 06/30/2022. The funding amount, \$72,000, is for the full period of the agreement. Any reduction in the provision of services will be prorated.

Program Description

Under the general direction of the Director of Housing and Homeless Services, the Outreach Coordinator will act as a central coordination point in citywide efforts (faith based, non-profit, business, governmental) to address homelessness, as well as provide hands-on services to people without homes in Greater Sebastopol.

City of Sebastopol Agrees to Provide:

1. Funding for one FTE position and related program costs as presented in the budget
2. City resources dedicated to solving Homelessness
3. Monthly project status meetings
4. Prompt monthly payment

WCCS Agrees to:

1. Refer people without homes to Coordinated Entry as appropriate
2. Represent WCCS at relevant meetings
3. Take leadership coordination role in homeless services
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9. Support Safe Parking efforts.

West County Community Services www.westcountyservices.org
16390 Main Street, P.O. Box 325
Guerneville, CA 95446
(707) 823-1640 FAX (707) 824-1642

Term

The term of this Agreement shall be July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Indemnification

Each party is an independent entity, responsible for its acts and the acts of its officers, agents and employees. Consequently, each party agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the other party, its officers, agents and employees from any and all loss, injury, liability, damages, claims, demands, suits, or judgments arising from the acts or omissions of its officers, agents, and employees in connection with the performance of this agreement.

Confidentiality

The parties shall maintain the confidentiality of information gathered and all records generated during the period of this agreement pursuant to applicable Federal and State laws. This does not prohibit staff from reporting suspected neglect or abuse of participants to agencies as required by law.

IX. Signatures

City of Sebastopol

Date:

Tim Miller, Executive Director WCCS

Date: