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COMMISSION

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San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC)

City of San Diego Homelessness Response Center

Presentation to the SDHC Board of Commissioners
June 20, 2025

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City of San Diego Homelessness Response Center

Introduction

- Since November 2018, when the City acquired the current location, SDHC has operated the Homelessness Response Center and has administered the contract.
- In February 2024, the City released a Request for Proposals for the disposition and development of the property where the program is located with the intent of developing affordable housing.
- The City identified an alternative location at the San Diego Central Library to maintain Homelessness Response Center operations.
- The proposed actions will allow SDHC to enter into a non-competitive agreement with Downtown San Diego Partnership to operate the Homelessness Response Center program at its new location for a one-year term, with four one-year options to renew.



San Diego Central Library



City of San Diego Homelessness Response Center

Program Overview

- The program will:
 - Provide one-time or short-term system navigation services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness in the City of San Diego.
 - Coordinate with service providers and partners in the community who may already be serving or engaged with the individuals and families
 - This will ensure efficient utilization and leveraging of system resources.
 - Offer short-term diversion financial assistance targeting barriers to housing, such as:
 - Rental application fees
 - Security deposits
 - First and last month's rent
 - Utility deposits
 - Utility/rent debt
 - Other costs necessary for housing stability.



City of San Diego Homelessness Response Center

Service Model

- A Housing First program with low barriers to entry and operations
- Coordination with and referrals to County of San Diego, State of California, and federal programs, as well as nonprofits and social services agencies
- Assistance with accessing mainstream benefits
- Assistance obtaining personal identification documents, which may include referrals to local legal assistance resources
- Referrals to shelter through the Coordinated Shelter Intake Program and/or referrals to other temporary lodging resources



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Service Model (Continued)

- Assistance completing and obtaining documents for housing applications and supportive and subsidized housing paperwork
- Advocacy and mediation with potential landlords to secure new housing
- Assistance locating safe and affordable permanent or other longer-term housing, including determining housing interventions and opportunities outside of the Coordinated Entry System (CES)
- Determining diversion opportunities, enrolling in diversion assistance, and issuing short-term diversion financial assistance targeting barriers to housing



City of San Diego Homelessness Response Center

Program Operator Experience

- The Downtown San Diego Partnership
 - Serving the Downtown San Diego area since 1993
 - Advocacy, public services, and community investment to support the economic prosperity and cultural vitality of Downtown
 - Most well-known program: Downtown Partnership Clean & Safe
 - Core service of Clean & Safe is called Unhoused Care.
- The Unhoused Care Team
 - Provides outreach services
 - Assists unsheltered individuals through connections to community resources including:
 - Clean & Safe's Family Reunification Program
 - Diversion
 - Shelter opportunities.
- Downtown San Diego Partnership will leverage its current public service programs, including their operation of the City's Safe Sleeping program, to enhance the service delivery at the new HRC location.



City of San Diego Homelessness Response Center

Contractor Selection Process

- A non-competitive process under Procurement Policy 9.1 will be utilized to procure Downtown San Diego Partnership as the program operator.
- A non-competitive procurement process is appropriate due to the expedited time frame needed to quickly procure a new program operator at the Homelessness Response Center.



City of San Diego Homelessness Response Center

Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Agreement

- Operating Term: July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026
- Four one-year options to renew
- Future option years are contingent upon funds being made available for this purpose during the City's annual budgeting process.

FUNDING SOURCE	FUNDING BY USE	FY 2026	FY 2027-2030
City General Fund	Operator Agreement	\$483,276	\$483,276
	SDHC Administrative Costs	\$24,164	\$24,164
TOTAL		\$507,440	\$507,440



City of San Diego Homelessness Response Center

Staff Recommendations

That the SDHC Board of Commissioners take the following actions:

- 1) Authorize SDHC to enter into a non-competitive, sole source agreement under Procurement Policy Section 9.1 with Downtown San Diego Partnership in the amount of \$483,276 to operate the Homelessness Response Center at 330 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA, 92101 for an initial 12-month term from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, with four one-year options to renew, contingent on the City of San Diego making funds available for this purpose in its annual budgeting process.
- 2) Authorize SDHC's President and Chief Executive Officer (President and CEO), or designee, to execute all documents and instruments that are necessary and/or appropriate to implement these approvals, in a form and format approved by General Counsel, and to take such actions necessary and/or appropriate to implement these approvals, provided that a copy of the documents, signed as to form by General Counsel, are submitted to each Housing Commissioner.
- 3) Authorize SDHC's President and CEO, or designee, to substitute funding sources and/or increase compensation by not more than 20 percent of the total agreement amount for the proposed agreement, if necessary, without further action by the SDHC Board or the Housing Authority of the City of San Diego, but only if and to the extent that funds are determined to be available for such purposes.



Questions & Comments

