



Community Development
521 E. Fourth Street
Long Beach, CA 90802
Tel 562 570-6985
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October 14, 2008

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HONORABLE HOUSING AUTHORITY
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Request for Authorization to Open the Housing Authority Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) waiting list. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

The Housing Authority receives federal funds designated for people with HIV/AIDS under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) Program. These funds provide tenant based rental assistance and related social services, such as move-in grants to low-income people with HIV/AIDS.

The HOPWA waiting list was last opened in June of 2006. Applicants were placed on the waiting list in random order; however, State and local preferences affect the order in which applicants were served. Veterans, veterans' surviving spouses, and Long Beach residents (defined as those who live or work in Long Beach) were served before those applicants who were not. Other preferences included those with disabilities and the elderly. The Housing Authority provided rental assistance to an average of 26 households each month under the HOPWA program during the last year.

The Housing Authority has exhausted the list of names of people who were interested in the HOPWA program. Authorization is, therefore, requested to re-open the HOPWA waiting list. It is planned that the waiting list will open for the HOPWA program in November 2008 for a 30-day period, if authorized. Interested applicants will be notified that applications are being accepted via several local Long Beach media outlets, social service organizations, and the Housing Authority website. Applications must be submitted either online at www.longbeach.gov/cd/housing or by U.S. mail to the Housing Authority, 521 E. 4th Street, Long Beach, California 90802. Walk-in applications will not be accepted at the Housing Authority.



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Deputy City Attorney Linda Trang reviewed this letter on September 29, 2008 and Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell viewed this letter on September 25, 2008.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

Authorization is required at this time to enable the Housing Authority to accept new applications for families with a household member who is HIV positive or has AIDS.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the requested action.

SUGGESTED ACTION:


Approve Recommendation

Respectfully submitted,



DENNIS J. THYS
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR