

CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HOUSING AUTHORITY
of the City of Long Beach

521 E. 4TH STREET • LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802 • (562) 570-6985 • FAX: (562) 499-1052

December 13, 2011

AGENDA ITEM 4

HONORABLE HOUSING AUTHORITY COMMISSION
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Request authorization to open the Housing Authority's Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) waiting list. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

The Housing Authority of the City of Long Beach receives federal funds designated for people with HIV/AIDS under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Housing Opportunities for persons 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 Housing Authority will provide rental assistance to an average of 40 households each month under the HOPWA Program.

The HOPWA waiting list was last opened in November of 2008. Currently, the Housing Authority has almost 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 January 2012 for a 30-day period, if authorized. Interested applicants will be notified that applications are being accepted via the Housing Authority website at www.haclb.org.

Applicants will be placed on the waiting list in random order. Local preferences will affect the priority in which applicants will be served. Veterans, veterans' surviving spouses and Long Beach residents (defined as those who live or work in Long Beach) will be served before those applicants who are not residents.

We are also collaborating with several community-based organizations that provide HIV healthcare services to our prospective clients to provide assistance with completing the online application if necessary. In addition to advertising the opening of the HOPWA waiting list on our website, www.haclb.org, we will advertise in the local press including the Press Telegram, La Opinion, and the Angkor Bore News, as well as several publications targeting the LGBT.

This letter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Linda Trang on November 21, 2011 and by Budget and Performance Management Officer Victoria Bell on November 22, 2011.

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 to the General Fund as this program is funded through a HUD grant for HOPWA. There is no local job impact associated with this recommendation.

SUGGESTED ACTION:


Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:



RONALD R. ARIAS
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER