

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

ITEM NO. 5.5

DATE: April 28, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Brent Smith, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the allocation and appropriation of Human Service Facility Fee,

Affordable Housing In-Lieu, and Social Opportunity Endowment funds in the total amount of \$1,078,500 for Fiscal Years 2025-27 and authorizing the execution of documents

required to receive, use, and distribute funds.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff and the Human Services Commission recommend the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the allocation and appropriation of \$1,078,500 in funding as listed below and authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute all related documents, grant agreements, and modifications.

- 1. Human Services Facility Fee Funds in the amount of \$182,000
- 2. Affordable Housing In-Lieu Funds in the amount of \$652,000
- 3. Social Opportunity Endowment Funds in the amount of \$244,500

SUMMARY

Each year, the City of Livermore brings together multiple funding sources to support capital projects and public service programs benefiting low-income Livermore households that are consistent with the goals and priorities as outlined in the City's Five-Year Consolidated Plan. These funding sources include Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). These federal dollars are leveraged with the City's local resources.

On March 11, 2025, the Human Services Commission approved funding recommendations in the estimated total amount of \$2,074,878 from the federal grants, CDBG and HOME, as well as local funding from the Human Services Facility Fee, Affordable Housing In-Lieu and Social Opportunity Endowment funds. These funds will serve over 9,000 low-income, senior, youth, homeless, and disabled Livermore residents for the next two fiscal years.

Due to the uncertainty of the federal budget, the Human Services Commission and staff recommend the City Council approve the local funding recommendations set forth in Exhibit A to the resolution in the

total amount of \$1,078,500 for FY 2025-27 only. Staff will bring the federal grant recommendations, along with the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2025-26 Action plan for approval in June 2025.

DISCUSSION

Grant Allocation Process

On September 10, 2024, the Human Services Commission recommended four funding priorities for the FY 2025-27 Housing and Human Services Grant Cycle. The four priorities included: Housing Services, Homeless Services, Health Care Services, and Service Provision, Awareness, and Navigation. Council approved the four priorities on October 28, 2024.

As part of a regional coordinated effort to allocate funds to local agencies, staff worked with the Cities of Dublin and Pleasanton to make changes to the grant program. Starting in FY 2025-26, a two-year grant cycle was implemented. Additional changes included a joint Tri-Valley Grant Application for the two-year grant cycle which was released on November 25, 2024. The new application was simplified from previous years and allowed non-profits to request grant funding for a particular project from all three cities through one application. In December 2024, staff from Livermore, Dublin and Pleasanton held a workshop for non-profit and public agencies to discuss the grant application process. Application requests were due to the City on January 17, 2025, and submitted electronically through an online grant application program.

The Commission and staff reviewed the applications against multiple criteria including need and benefit, program evaluation, budget, alternative funding sources, community support, and prior grant management and application completeness. All applicants were required to make a presentation and responded to questions regarding their grant application at a Joint Special Human Services Commission meeting on February 11, 2025, held in Dublin. Following the joint meeting, the Human Services Commission evaluated and scored all grant applications by non-profit and public agencies submitted to the City. Through the online grant application program, the average score of each application was calculated as the basis for staff to subsequently provide the Commission with funding recommendations. The Commission reviewed and approved the proposed funding recommendations during their regular meeting on March 11, 2025.

The City has traditionally allocated federal and local funds through the Housing and Human Services Grant Program to eligible public and non-profit agencies that provide housing and services. For FY 2025-27, the City's Housing and Human Services Grant Program received 31 applications from 24 agencies requesting \$3,075,658 in grant funding. For FY 2025-27, there is an estimated \$760,700 in CDBG funding, an estimated \$235,678 in HOME funding, \$182,000 in Human Services Facility Fee Funding, \$652,000 in Affordable Housing In-Lieu funding and \$244,500 in Social Opportunity Endowment (SOE) funding over the two-year grant cycle that is being recommended to fund 15 projects (10 organizations), Section 108 Loans, and Administration for a total of \$2,074,878.

In March 2025, City staff was informed by HUD that the federal allocations for the CDBG and HOME grants were not expected to be released until May 2025. Due to the uncertainty of the federal budget, the Human Services Commission and staff recommend the City Council approve the local funding recommendations set forth in Exhibit A to the resolution in the total amount of \$1,078,500 for FY 2025-27 which include 12 projects (nine organizations). Staff will bring the federal grant recommendations, along with the Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2025-26 Action plan for approval in June 2025. A detailed description of each local funding source with the recommendations is described below.

Human Service Facility Fee \$182,000 (\$182,000 for FY 2025-26 only):

The Human Service Facility Fee is established for capital projects that support Human Service programs. Applicants for these funds must demonstrate a specified direct service to low-income clients. For FY 2025-26, two projects are being recommended for funding:

Organization/Project	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Total Recommendation
Goodness Village- Home Preservation and Weatherproofing	\$17,000	\$0	\$17,000
Sunflower Hill- Hagemann Ranch Structure and Equitable Access	\$165,000	\$0	\$165,000
Total	\$182,000	\$0	\$182,000

Affordable Housing In-Lieu Funds \$652,000 (\$326,000 for FY 2025-26 and \$326,000 for FY 2026-27):

City Affordable Housing In-Lieu funds originate from development fees and are used to finance a variety of programs and mechanisms for creating and sustaining affordable housing in Livermore. These funds are strictly limited to housing support services and have traditionally helped backfill limited public services funding for homeless shelters and housing services for individuals experiencing homelessness. For FY 2025-27, four projects are being recommended for funding:

Organization/Project	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Total Recommendation
CityServe of the Tri- Valley- Regional Homeless Prevention, Intervention and Crisis Stabilization	\$226,000	\$226,000	\$452,000
Tri-Valley Haven- Shiloh Domestic Violence Shelter	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$80,000
Tri-Valley Haven- Sojourner House Homeless Shelter	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$80,000
Abode Services- Alameda County (AC) Impact Program	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$40,000
Total	\$326,000	\$326,000	\$652,000

<u>Social Opportunity Endowment Funds \$244,500 (\$120,000 for FY 2025-26 and \$124,500 for FY 2026-27):</u>

Each year the City receives numerous qualified grant applications from agencies providing core safety net services in Livermore. The SOE Funds are for public services such as services at a food pantry, vocational and educational programs, food services for seniors, and a mobile family resource center in Livermore. Currently, the City's SOE fund has \$1,800,000 in revenue committed from developers over

the next several years. Staff is in the process of making proposed revisions to amend the SOE ordinance, to be presented to City Council for approval, to increase the annual spending limit allowed (currently set at \$80,000 per year) and include a 3% escalator per year. The recommended SOE funding amounts shown on Exhibit A is conditional on the approval of the ordinance being approved by Council for update by July 1, 2025. For FY 2025-27, six projects are being recommended for funding:

Organization/Project	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Total Recommendation
Open Heart Kitchen- Senior Meal Program	\$24,000	\$24,900	\$48,900
Tri-Valley Haven- Food Pantry	\$36,000	\$37,350	\$73,350
Goodness Village- Vocational Skills, Community Engagement and Pathways to Stability	\$20,000	\$20,750	\$40,750
Mercy Retirement and Care Center- Mercy Brown Bag Program	\$15,000	\$15,563	\$30,563
Hively- Hive on Wheels: Mobile Family Resource Center	\$15,000	\$15,563	\$30,563
Partners for Change Tri- Valley- Alleviating Poverty and Homelessness	\$10,000	\$10,374	\$20,374
Total	\$120,000	\$124,500	\$244,500

Spectrum Community Services Senior Meals on Wheels program received the highest score from the Human Services Commission in the public services category but will be recommended for CDBG public service funding in June 2025.

FISCAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE IMPACTS

Appropriation of the grant funds detailed above will come from the following sources as referenced in Exhibit A to the resolution: Human Service Facility Fee funds \$182,000 (Fund 290); Affordable Housing In-Lieu funds \$652,000 (Fund 200); and Social Opportunity Endowment Funds \$244,500 (Fund 202), for a total amount of \$1,078,500 over the two-year grant cycle.

COMMUNITY PILLAR

1: A Safe Community that Thrives

GOAL

8: Expand and improve access to human services

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution

2. Exhibit A - Human Services Local Funds Grant Recommendations

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