

Leadership Council

Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 26, 2022 | 2:30 PM – 3:15 PM

Via Zoom

Leadership Council Co-Chair: Luis Alejo (Monterey County Board of Supervisors)

Leadership Council Co-Chair: César E. Flores (City of San Juan Bautista)

Members Present & Affiliations: Luis Alejo (Monterey County Board of Supervisors), Mike LeBarre (Mayor of King City), Timothy Heavin (CoC), Enrique Arreola (County of San Benito, Health & Human Services), Phyllis Katz (California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.), Ian Oglesby (City of Seaside), Kurt Schake (Veterans Transition Center), Roxanne Wilson (County of Monterey), Donna Smith (Monterey County Office of Education), Elsa Jimenez (Monterey County Health Department), Robin McCrae (Community Human Services), Tory Gunsolley (Housing Authority County of Monterey), Alyssa Kroger (Monterey Bay Economic Partnership), Lori Medina (Monterey County Department of Social Services), Amanda Villareal (Central California Alliance for Health)

CHSP Staff: Genevieve Lucas-Conwell, Jake Fenton, Kai Reynolds, Grant Tuioti, Oliver Elbert, Joshua Bryan, Katrina McKenzie, Armando Elizondo, Krystal Kay Estrada

Guests: Vanessa Fenley (Focus Strategies), Jasmine Mejia Cortez (Office of Luis Alejo), Javier Gomez (Office of Luis Alejo), Denise Vienne (Monterey County Department of Social Services)

1. **Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements:** The meeting began at 2:31 PM. Introductions were made to keep order to the call.
2. **Additions/Modifications to the Agenda:** No Additions or modifications
3. **Public Comment:** No public comments
4. **Annual Continuum of Care N.O.F.O:**

Genevieve Lucas Conwell & Kai Reynolds present an overview of the 2022 Annual NOFO Overview of the 2022 Annual NOFO, HUD policy priorities, CoC Local Competition Process, & the CoC Priority List. The priority listing summary is as follows:

- 10 Renewal Projects
- 4 New Projects
- 10 Permanent Supportive Housing
- 1 Transitional Housing, 1 Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing
- 3 Rapid Rehousing
- Units: **118**
- Beds: **214**

Questions were taken:

Tory Gunsolley: from a process standpoint are these 15 automatically awarded or is there any risk that HUD will not award all 15?

Genevieve Lucas-Conwell: Tier 1 is guaranteed funding, and tier 2 will go into the national competition as well as the DV bonus. Tier 2 is its own competition bucket.

Mayor Mike LaBarre: Concerned that Step up in King City was awarded that he would have to recuse himself.

Supervisor Alejo: No, because Mayor La Barre is not a representative of step up.

Mayor Mike LaBarre: since the step-up candidates are new/reallocations and they are accepted would they become renewals?

Genevieve Lucas-Conwell & Vanessa Fenley: yes, they would be renewals.

Supervisor Alejo: were the items on the bottom, in pink, being considered for renewal and it was decided that they were not? Is there any information that could be shared about why?

Genevieve Lucas-Conwell: they were the lowest scoring by the panel on presentation and in their application, all of the projects were transitional housing and the Lead Me Home plan is focused on permanent supportive housing, the new programs that came on were more competitive in their scoring but they also met with the lead me home plans objectives and goals, the panel opted to go with the new projects that aligned themselves with the lead me home plan

Supervisor Alejo: Tory is the interim director at HACM, as a respected partner maybe he could be given some feedback that they could pass along to the new director for them to be more competitive next year, competition is good but maybe their projects could be enhanced.

Tory Gunsolley: the housing authority, and speaking for himself, understands what the continuum did and is not in disagreement with the decision and is talking with their supportive services provider on the possibility of changing to a permanent supportive housing model as well as tweaking the admissions policy because currently it is not housing first and so it was not in alignment with the direction of the CoC

Supervisor Alejo: wanted to speak on the first project Moon Gate we just met with them and it there have been many challenges and we must support them in their challenges.

Roxanne Wilson: The different departments within the county have been talking about pueblo del mar and have been looking into their own internal budgets and available funding streams how to support the housing authority should they want to transition to permanent supportive housing.

Phyllis Katz: Is this money for personnel and for counseling or is this also to complete construction or to purchase furniture or other kinds of matters?

Genevieve Lucas-Conwell: It is dependent on the project, there is personnel probably in all of these, for each project in general about 10% is for admin that for operating costs for the projects in general and there are some that do fund things like furniture, building and construction, depends on the project/program.

Kai Reynolds: it also depends on the program, it depends on what you can pay for, acquisition, rehabilitation, new construction, leasing, rental assistance is usually a huge blend, rapid rehousing dollars associated with a lot of our transitional housing programs CCW, YWCA has done. Considerable operating and supportive services costs are usually embedded within all of these project applications and budgets and of course as Genevieve Lucas-Conwell had mentioned it just depends on that program and the project type as well.

Recommended Motion: Motion to approve the Annual Continuum of Care N.O.F.O. priority listing and collaborative application for 2022.

Motion to approve made by Ian Oglesby. Seconded by Roxane Wilson. Enrique Arreola, Kurt Schake, and Robin McCrae abstained. Motion carried with three abstentions.

No Public Comment

Roll Call vote was as follows: Ayes: Luis Alejo, Tory Gunsolley, Timothy Heavin, Elsa Jimenez, Phyllis Katz, Alyssa Kroger, Mike LeBarre, Lori Medina, Ian Oglesby, Amanda Villareal, Roxanne Wilson

Recuse: Enrique Arreola, Robin McCrae, Kurt Schake, Donna Smith

Announcements:

Supervisor Alejo announced that he is working with Roxanne on an idea that Jane Barr had given them, there is some money out there that was allocated under what is called the Permanent Local Housing Allocation Program, it is a state-funded program, but it is not a lot of money when it is given to individual cities and they can't do much with it, but together it's almost \$700,000. There is a new grant writer at the county, we are hoping with Roxanne's help and the agreement of the cities: Carmel, Greenfield, Marina, Soledad, and Seaside, that if we do a joint application and draw down that money, that's \$700,000 more per year that would go to local projects.

Roxanne Wilson: This is for the 2019 allocation for the cities that Supervisor Alejo just mentioned, they have not started the process to draw that down and HCD is threatening to take that money and reallocate it towards other funding streams they have. We don't want to lose that, because that funding is renewable, the only city we have heard back from so far is the city of Marina, if any other city that was mentioned is in this meeting please reach out, time is of the essence. There are only a few weeks to prepare an entire application and make this work. The one stipulation is that we would like that funding to go towards homeless services that serve the entire county. We are looking at possibly the share of Casa de Noche Buena, and man heart house that is in development, we definitely want to support the shelters and there is not a lot of funding to support them outside of these very narrow funding streams.

Supervisor Alejo: we will reach out to all the mayors. The funding was quoted as follows:

\$81,000 – Carmel, \$139,000 – Greenfield, \$157,000 – Marina, \$120,000 – Soledad, \$193,000 - Seaside

If it is renewable we could get this money again for the next funding cycle, we have about a month to get an application in for these 5 cities, all we need is for the cities to say yes we are in. This is an example of cities like Carmel that haven't been contributing, this is money that doesn't cost them because they would be applying and asking the coalition to help us put this toward providing homelessness services in our county. It is basically at no cost because it is from a funding source that they are not utilizing that we can put to use. Mayor

Mike LaBarre: King City is not on the list?

Supervisor Alejo: No. According to the list that we have. Some cities might have applied already for that money, these are cities that are eligible but have not applied.

Robin McCrae: I just wanted to follow on what you were saying about city participation, peninsula cities are contributing towards Casa de Noche Buena operations, and all of the other peninsula cities with the exception of Marina are paying roughly equal to \$1 per capita, so if they are able to do more with these new funding that would be great because there is a big amount to raise every year. We are trying to raise through private philanthropy and city/county contributions.

Roxanne Wilson: I am planning on going for the Encampment Resolution Grant to address the Pajaro river encampment, this is a very large proposal with a lot of moving pieces. I am looking for assistance

from the people on the leadership council to help this go through, it's very complicated to put this thing together. I look forward to partnering with everyone so we can really create a robust program for the people in Pajaro. There is a 200 million-dollar Pajaro Levee Expansion project on its way and regardless of what we do. This project is going to clear that encampment and I am trying to get in front of it and it is really important that we pay attention to what the people in that particular encampment need. In order for us to do that we have to bring back a similar version of project room key 2.0 when we had all of the service providers join in and band together, join their arms together to serve the most difficult people that we could find on the street. It will be the first project of its kind and will be in partnership with the city of Watsonville and the County of Santa Cruz

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 3:03 PM

Minutes taken and prepared by Krystal Kay Estrada