

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

159



FROM: Economic Development Agency

SUBMITTAL DATE:
March 17, 2016

SUBJECT: Approve Substantial Amendment to the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan of the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and Emergency Solutions Grant Written Standards, All Districts [\$696,228], Community Development Block Grant 83.17% and Emergency Solutions Grant 16.83%, CEQA Exempt

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Find that the substantial amendment to the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan of the 2014-2019 Five Year Consolidated plan (Substantial Amendment) and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Written Standards are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3);
2. Find that the Substantial Amendment and the ESG Written Standards are exempt from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) pursuant to Title 24 Code of Federal Regulations Section 58.34(a)(1) and (a)(3);

(Continued)

Robert Field
Assistant County Executive Officer/EDA

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost:	POLICY/CONSENT (per Exec. Office)
COST	\$ 696,228	\$ 0	\$ 696,228	\$ 0	Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	

SOURCE OF FUNDS: Community Development Block Grant 83.17%;
Emergency Solutions Grant 16.83%

Budget Adjustment: No
For Fiscal Year: 2015/16

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE
BY:
Rohini Dasika
County Executive Office Signature

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Jeffries, seconded by Supervisor Ashley and duly carried, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Tavaglione, Benoit and Ashley
Nays: None
Absent: Washington
Date: March 29, 2016
xc: EDA, Recorder

Kecia Harper-Ihem
Clerk of the Board
By:
Deputy

Prev. Agn. Ref.: 9-1 of 5/6/14;
9-1 of 4/28/15

District: ALL

Agenda Number:

3-17

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL 3/9/16
BY: GREGORY P. PRIAMOS DATE

FISCAL PROCEDURES APPROVED
PAUL ANGUILO, CPA, AUDITOR-CONTROLLER
BY: Susana Garcia-Bocanegra 3/16/16

A-30 Positions Added
4/5 Vote Change Order

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Economic Development Agency

FORM 11: Approve Substantial Amendment to the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan of the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and Emergency Solutions Grant Written Standards, All Districts [\$696,228], Community Development Block Grant 83.17% and Emergency Solutions Grant 16.83%, CEQA Exempt.

DATE: March 17, 2016

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RECOMMENDED MOTION (Continued)

3. Approve the substantial amendment to the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan of the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, to add the following CDBG projects which are fully described in Attachments A, B, C, D, and E attached hereto:

Valley Restart Shelter - Bus Ticket Home	\$ 10,000	Add New Project
Ripley Wastewater System Improvements	\$ 125,000	Add New Project
Mesa Verde Water System Improvements	\$ 21,000	Add New Project
Desert Center Wastewater System Improvements	\$ 33,000	Add New Project
Good Hope Community Road Improvements	\$ 390,000	Add New Project

4. Approve the substantial amendment to the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan of the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan to add the following Emergency Solutions Grant projects which are fully described in Attachments ESG1 and ESG2 attached hereto:

Coachella Valley Rescue Mission Rapid Re-Housing project	\$ 50,000	Add New Project
Path of Life Ministries Rapid Re-Housing Project	\$ 67,228	Add New Project

5. Approve and adopt the attached Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Written Standards (ESG Written Standards) and amend the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan to incorporate the new ESG Written Standards, and
6. Direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption with the Clerk of the Board within 5 working days.

BACKGROUND:

Summary

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that all substantial amendments to the County's Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the One-Year Action Plan are subject to the Citizen Participation Plan and are approved by the Board of Supervisors and HUD. In accordance with the County of Riverside's Citizen Participation Plan for the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan, all new activities added to the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan, any significant increases in funding or changes to an existing project, or other changes or amendments to the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan are considered to be substantial amendments.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects, as described in Attachments A, B, C, D, and E attached hereto, have been determined by staff to be eligible activities that meet a National Objective of the CDBG program. Staff recommends approval of the new CDBG projects as substantial amendments. The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) projects, as described in Attachments ESG1 and ESG2 have been determined by staff to be eligible ESG activities. Staff recommends approval of the new ESG projects as substantial amendments.

(Continued)

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FORM 11: Approve Substantial Amendment to the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan of the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and Emergency Solutions Grant Written Standards, All Districts [\$696,228], Community Development Block Grant 83.17% and Emergency Solutions Grant 16.83%, CEQA Exempt.

DATE: March 17, 2016

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BACKGROUND:

Summary

(Continued)

Pursuant to 24 CFR Section 576.400 (e)(1) and (e)(3) and 24 CFR Section 91.220 (l)(4), the County must develop and incorporate written standards for providing ESG assistance to individuals and families. The proposed Emergency Solutions Grant Written Standards are attached. Staff recommends incorporating these written standards into the County's Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

The new standards were developed in collaboration with the cities of Riverside and Moreno Valley (both ESG grantees) as well as the Riverside County Continuum of Care to ensure uniform intake, evaluation, and assistance for homeless persons throughout the County. Adoption of these proposed new written standards is considered a substantial amendment to the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan. Staff recommend approval and adoption of the standards and approval of the substantial amendment.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the substantial amendment to the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan of the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the ESG Written Standards were reviewed and determined to be categorically exempt from CEQA under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), General Rule or "Common Sense" exemption. The project, the Substantial Amendment to the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan of the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and ESG Written Standards is an administrative planning document that will only have financial effect. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed substantial amendment may have a significant effect on the environment and will not lead to any direct or reasonably indirect physical impacts. The individual projects identified in the substantial amendment will be subject to separate CEQA environmental review prior to taking any choice limiting action or discretionary action on those specific projects. A Notice of Exemption will be filed by County staff with the County Clerk within five days of the approval of the substantial amendment of the 2015-2016 One Year Action Plan.

Furthermore, the substantial amendment to the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan of the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the ESG Written Standards were reviewed and determined to be exempt from the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) pursuant to Title 24 Code of Federal Regulations Sections 58.34 (a)(1) and (a)(3) since the proposed substantial amendment is an administrative activity. The individual projects identified in the substantial amendment of the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan will be subject to separate NEPA environmental review prior to taking any choice limiting action or discretionary action on those specific projects.

Pursuant to 24 CFR Section 91.105 and the Citizen Participation Plan, the Economic Development Agency published the required public notices notifying the public of the comment period for the proposed substantial amendments to the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan of the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan. No public comments have been received.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the substantial amendment to the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan of the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the ESG Written Standards as to form.

Impact on Citizens and Businesses

CDBG Activities:

(Continued)

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FORM 11: Approve Substantial Amendment to the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan of the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and Emergency Solutions Grant Written Standards, All Districts [\$696,228], Community Development Block Grant 83.17% and Emergency Solutions Grant 16.83%, CEQA Exempt.

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CDBG Activities:

(Continued)

Valley Restart Bus Ticket Home Program: Valley Restart will use CDBG funds to pay for transportation costs to allow homeless persons and families relocate to locations where they have verifiable support systems, resources, and assistance to eliminate their homelessness.

Ripley Wastewater System Improvements: County Service Area 62 will use CDBG funds to pay for upgrades to the community wastewater and sewer treatment systems including back-up generators, monitoring systems, and other energy-efficient upgrades to ensure continued system operation as well as public health and safety.

Mesa Verde Water System Improvements: County Service Area 122 will use CDBG funds to replace water meters and construct other improvements to improve water conservation and to reduce lead and other post-treatment contamination in the distribution system.

Desert Center Wastewater System Improvements: County Service Area 51 will use CDBG funds to pay for a new back-up generator to ensure continued operation of the treatment plant to ensure public health and safety.

Good Hope Community Road Improvements: The County's Transportation Department will use CDBG funds to pay for road improvements and upgrades to Post Road between San Jacinto Avenue and Santa Rosa Mine Road providing vehicular and pedestrian safety to residents in the predominantly lower-income project area.

ESG Activities:

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding will be used by the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission and Path of Life Ministries to provide rapid re-housing assistance to homeless persons and families throughout Riverside County.

Adoption of the ESG Written Standards will assist the County and the Continuum of Care to ensure uniform intake, evaluation, and assistance for homeless persons seeking assistance throughout the County.

SUPPLEMENTAL:

Additional Fiscal Information

No impact upon the County's General Fund

ATTACHMENTS:

CDBG Attachments A, B, C, D, and E - Project Descriptions

ESG Attachment ESG1 and ESG2 – Project Descriptions

ESG Written Standards

Public Notice and Proof of Publication

ATTACHMENT A
2015-2016 One Year Action Plan Amendment

- Project: Valley Restart Shelter
- Eligibility: 570.201 (e)
- Sponsor: Valley Restart Shelter
- Address: 200 E. Menlo Ave., Hemet, CA 92543

Funding: \$10,000

Project Description: Valley Restart Shelter operates a year round shelter servicing homeless individuals and families for a maximum of 90 days. Valley Restart Shelter will provide Greyhound bus tickets to individuals and families to location where they will have verifiable resources in order to eliminate homelessness. CDBG funds will be used for cost of bus ticket, travel supply kit, and case manager (direct cost).

Site Location: Valley Restart Shelter
200 E. Menlo Ave., Hemet, CA 92543

Benefit: 570.208 (a)(2)(i)(B) – Low Mod Limited Clientele Income Certification

Number Served: 50

ATTACHMENT B
2015-2016 One Year Action Plan Amendment

- Project: Ripley Wastewater System Improvements
- Eligibility: 24 CFR Section 570.201 (c) 03J
- Sponsor: County of Riverside, Economic Development Agency
- Address: 3403 Tenth Street, Suite 400, Riverside, CA

Funding: \$125,000

Project Description: The County will use CDBG funds to pay for upgrades to the community wastewater and sewer treatment systems including back-up generators, monitoring systems, and other energy-efficient upgrades to ensure continued system operation as well as public health and safety.

Site Location: County Service Area 62 – Unincorporated Community of Ripley

Benefit: 24 CFR Section 570.208 (a)(1)(i) Low/Moderate Income Area

Number Served: 1000 Low/Moderate Income 86%

ATTACHMENT C
2015-2016 One Year Action Plan Amendment

- Project: Mesa Verde Water System Improvements
- Eligibility: 24 CFR Section 570.201 (c) 03K
- Sponsor: County of Riverside, Economic Development Agency
- Address: 3403 Tenth Street, Suite 400, Riverside, CA

Funding: \$21,000

Project Description: The County (CSA 122) will use CDBG funds to replace water meters and construct other improvements to improve water conservation and to reduce lead and other post-treatment contamination in the distribution.

Site Location: Unincorporated Community of Mesa Verde

Benefit: 24 CFR Section 570.208 (a)(1)(i) Low/Moderate Income Area

Number Served: 1000 Low/Moderate Income 63.2%

ATTACHMENT D
2015-2016 One Year Action Plan Amendment

- Project: Desert Center/Lake Tamarisk Wastewater System Improvements
- Eligibility: 24 CFR Section 570.201 (c) 03J
- Sponsor: County of Riverside, Economic Development Agency
- Address: 3403 Tenth Street, Suite 400, Riverside, CA

Funding: \$33,000

Project Description: The County will use CDBG funds to pay for the installation of a new back-up generator to ensure continued system operation as well as public health and safety for this remote, rural community.

Site Location: Unincorporated Community of Lake Tamarisk (Desert Center)

Benefit: 24 CFR Section 570.208 (a)(1)(i) Low/Moderate Income Area

Number Served: 500 Low/Moderate Income 63.2%

ATTACHMENT E
2015-2016 One Year Action Plan Amendment

- Project: Good Hope Community Road Improvements
- Eligibility: 24 CFR Section 570.201 (c) 03K
- Sponsor: County of Riverside, Economic Development Agency
- Address: 3403 Tenth Street, Suite 400, Riverside, CA

Funding: \$390,000

Project Description: The County's Transportation Department will use CDBG funds to pay for approximately 70,400 square feet of road improvements on Post Road between San Jacinto Avenue and Santa Rosa Mine Road providing all weather access, vehicular and pedestrian safety, as well as dust mitigation. The improvements will consist of 4" asphalt over 6" of base.

Site Location: Unincorporated Community of Good Hope

Benefit: 24 CFR Section 570.208 (a)(1)(i) Low/Moderate Income Area

Number Served: 7225 Low/Moderate Income 55%

ATTACHMENT ESG 1
2015-2016 One Year Action Plan Amendment

- Project: Coachella Valley Rescue Mission Shelter and Rapid Re-housing
- Sponsor: Coachella Valley Rescue Mission
- Address: 84110 Manila St, Indio, CA 92201

Funding: \$50,000

Project Description: ESG funds will be used to expand services by Coachella Valley Rescue Mission to include rapid re-housing. Associated services provided will include case management and housing manager salaries (direct cost), security deposit, utility, rent, and other related rapid re-housing activities.

Site Location: 84110 Manila St, Indio, CA 92201

Number Served: 8

ATTACHMENT ESG 2
2015-2016 One Year Action Plan Amendment

- Project: Path of Life Ministries Shelter and Rapid Re-housing
- Sponsor: Path of Life Ministries
- Address: 2840 Hulen Place, Riverside, CA 92507

Funding: \$67,228

Project Description: ESG funds will be used to expand services by Path of Life Ministries to include rapid re-housing. Associated services provided will include case management and housing manager salaries (direct cost), security deposit, utility, rent, and other related rapid re-housing activities.

Site Location:

Number Served: 12



County of Riverside, Economic Development Agency

ESG WRITTEN STANDARDS

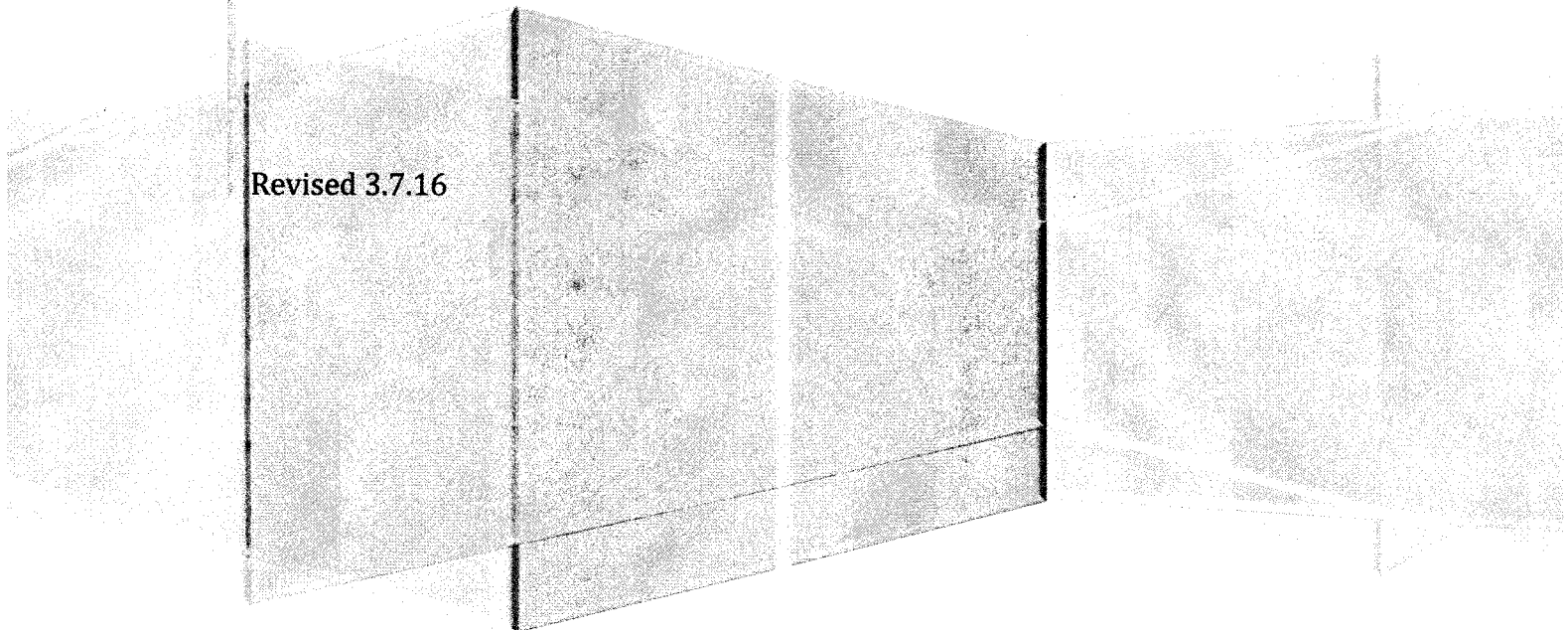
Outreach Services

Emergency Shelter

Rapid Re-Housing

Homelessness Prevention

Revised 3.7.16



Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

Reference 24 CFR Part 576.400 and 24 CFR Part 91.220

Emergency Solutions Grant Standards

The County of Riverside, through the Economic Development Agency (EDA), is responsible for coordinating and implementing a system-wide approach to meet the needs of the population and subpopulation experiencing homelessness within the geographic area of Riverside County. The Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) regulations, the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH Act), and the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Interim Rules state that the CoC, in consultation with recipients of ESG program funds within the geographic area, must:

- (1) Establish and consistently follow written standards for providing CoC assistance;
- (2) Establish performance targets appropriate for population and program type; and
- (3) Monitor recipient and sub-recipient performance.

Pursuant to the Code of Federal Regulations 24 CFR Part 578, EDA has developed the following written standards. These standards will apply to all projects and activities that receive County ESG funding. These are intended as basic minimum standards to which subrecipients can make additions and/or enforce more stringent standards applicable to their own projects. In addition, all projects must comply with the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) under which the project was originally awarded and applicable HEARTH Act requirements. All programs that receive ESG funding are required to abide by these written standards.

Overview of Hearth Act:

- The Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing Act, was approved on May 20, 2009, and amended the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.
- Changes allow for increased flexibility in who may be served and what activities may be carried out.
- The HEARTH Act consolidates three of the separate homeless assistance programs administered by HUD under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act into a single grant program and creates the Emergency Solutions Grant Program and the Rural Housing Stability Program.
- The focus changed from homeless shelter to homelessness prevention.

ESG and CoC Coordination/Collaboration

In collaboration with other ESG service providers, these written standards have been developed by ESG grantees within Riverside County, including EDA, the City of Riverside, City of Moreno Valley, and Continuum of Care (CoC) Membership. This collaboration allows for input on the standards and implementation process developed by organizations that directly provide homeless and housing services, Rapid Re-housing (R/R), and Homelessness Prevention (HP). The ESG Written Standards have been approved by the CoC, the County, and City ESG recipients. These written standards will be reviewed and revised at least annually, or as needed, to continue to build upon and refine this document.

Housing First Model

HUD encourages all ESG grantees and subrecipients as well as the COC to implement a “housing first” approach when providing assistance. The housing first approach prioritizes rapid placement and stabilization in permanent housing; it does not have service participation requirements or preconditions (such as sobriety or a minimum income threshold).

Transitional housing and supportive services only projects may also be considered when using the housing first approach, if they operate with low-barriers, work to quickly move people into permanent housing, do not require participation in supportive services, and do not require any preconditions for moving into transitional housing.

Universal Assessment

All individuals will be assessed using a comprehensive, universal assessment tool called the Vulnerability Index Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT). This tool guarantees that an individual or family’s level of need and eligibility determination are made in an informed, reasonable, and objective manner.

Homeless Management Information System

All subrecipients are required to participate in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) per the ESG and CoC Interim Rule (24 CFR Part 576 and Part 578). HMIS provides an opportunity to document homelessness and helps to ensure coordination between service providers while avoiding duplication of services and client data.

Data Sharing Requirement

Data sharing is a multi-directional sharing relationship between multiple organizations. In order to systematically share data, the participating agencies must jointly establish a data sharing network formalized by the execution of guidelines, with the understanding they agree to future updates to the guidelines made by the HMIS Committee.

ESG Agreements

EDA enters into one or two-year agreements with ESG subrecipients. In general, these subrecipient agreements define:

- Key program components or activities (including benchmarks for success);
- The level of ESG funding;
- The anticipated source and amount of matching funds (24CFR Part 576.201) contributed by the agency/organization;
- Applicable laws and regulations; and
- Documentation or reporting requirements.

Expenditure Limits

Funds used for street outreach and emergency shelter activities will be limited to the greater of:

- 60 percent of the County of Riverside’s total current fiscal year (FY) grant for ESG; or

- the amount of FY 2010 ESG grant funds that were committed to street outreach and emergency shelter.

Matching Funds Requirements

- The recipient must make matching contributions to supplement the recipient's ESG program in an amount that equals the amount of ESG funds provided by HUD.
- Matching contributions may be obtained from any eligible source, including any Federal source other than the ESG program, as well as state, local, and private sources. Additional requirements apply to matching contributions from a Federal source of funds.
- Matching contributions must be provided after the date that HUD signs the grant agreement.

Uniform Administrative Requirements

The use of ESG funding is subject to the applicable requirements of 2 CFR Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*. The purpose of 2 CFR Part 200 is to streamline the Federal Government's guidance on administrative requirements to more effectively focus Federal resources on improving performance and outcomes, while ensuring the financial integrity of the Federal programs in partnership with non-federal stakeholders (e.g., grantees and sub-recipients). 2 CFR Part 200 supersedes, consolidates, and streamlines requirements from eight (8) OMB Circulars: A-21, A-87, A-89, A-102, A-110, A-122, A-133, and A-50. Subrecipients are required to maintain an acceptable general accounting system. A subrecipient's general accounting system must include:

- Independent Single Audit: All ESG sub-recipients that expend more than \$750,000 of Federal funds (including all Federal sources) in a single year must have a single audit conducted in conformance with 2 CFR Part 200.514. Copies of the Single Audit must be sent to the County as well as HUD.
- All records must be maintained for a minimum of four (4) years.

Financial Management

Pursuant to 2 CFR Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, ESG Grantees and subrecipients must ensure compliance with regulations and requirements pertaining to the following key areas of financial management:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Usage of funds | • Required funding match |
| • Internal controls | • Budget controls |
| • Cash management | • Accounting controls |
| • Procurement Property | • Asset controls |
| • Audits | |

Documentation of Homelessness

ESG sub-recipients are required to maintain adequate documentation of homelessness status to determine eligibility of persons served by the ESG program.

- A copy of this documentation must be maintained by the subrecipient in the client's or participant's file. Documentation includes 3-day notice to pay or quit, public agency written

verification of homelessness, or self-certification of homelessness are examples of required proof to require and maintain in client file.

Qualifications of Homelessness

A person is considered homeless only when he/she resides in one of the following places:

- In places not meant for human habitation such as a car, park, sidewalk, an abandon building, or on the street;
- In an emergency shelter;
- In transitional or supportive housing for homeless persons who originally came from the streets or emergency shelter; or
- In any of the above but is spending a short time (up to 30 consecutive days) in a hospital or other institution.

Monitoring and Site Visits

Monitoring can take a number of forms and can include review of progress reports, telephone consultation, and performance on-site assessments. The three basic goals for oversight and monitoring of the progress and performance of ESG grantees/recipients include:

- Ensure that ESG funds are used effectively to assist homeless individuals and families and that the basic ESG program goals are met;
- Ensure compliance with ESG regulations and program requirements in the usage of funds and in carrying out program activities; and
- Enhance and develop the management capacity of grantees or recipients.

Participation of Homeless Persons in Policy-Making and Operations

Pursuant to 24 CFR Part 576.405, recipients of ESG funds must provide for the participation of not less than one homeless or formerly homeless persons in a policy-making function within the subrecipient's organization. If the recipient is unable to meet this requirement, they must instead develop and implement a plan to consult with homeless or formerly homeless persons in a policy-making function regarding any facilities, services, or other assistance that received funding under ESG. All subrecipients of ESG funds are required to involve or encourage involvement of participants in the operation of an ESG-funded program or facility. ESG subrecipients will be required to provide documentation during EDA monitoring visits of their efforts to seek the participation of the homeless or formerly homeless.

Termination of Assistance (24 CFR Part 576.402):

The County and subrecipients may terminate assistance provided through ESG-funded activities to participants that violate program requirements. Written procedures must describe the specific program requirements and the termination, grievance, or appeal processes; this should include the procedures for a participant to request a hearing regarding the termination of their assistance. The federal regulation at 24 CFR Part 576.402 describes the termination provision:

(a) If a program participant violates program requirements, the recipient or subrecipient may terminate the assistance in accordance with a formal process established by the recipient or subrecipient that recognizes the rights of individuals affected. The recipient or subrecipient must

exercise judgment and examine all extenuating circumstances in determining when violations warrant termination so that a program participant's assistance is terminated only in the most severe cases.

(b) Program participants receiving rental assistance or housing relocation and stabilization services. To terminate rental assistance or housing relocation and stabilization services to a program participant, the required formal process, at a minimum, must consist of:

- (1) Written notice to the program participant containing a clear statement of the reasons for termination;
- (2) A review of the decision, in which the program participant is given the opportunity to present written or oral objections before a person other than the person (or a subordinate of that person) who made or approved the termination decision; and
- (3) Prompt written notice of the final decision to the program participant.

(c) Ability to provide further assistance. Termination under this section does not bar the recipient or subrecipient from providing further assistance at a later date to the same family or individual.

Reimbursement Responsibilities

Subrecipients will be responsible to submit reimbursement request, on a monthly basis, for eligible and reasonable expenditures. The following must be included in the request:

- request cover page and summary page
- cancelled checks, bank statements, electronic payment receipts, credit card receipt, etc.
- invoice, bill, contract, lease, etc. (*late charges are not eligible*)
- HMIS reporting

Final reimbursement request must be submitted no later than the date specified in the ESG subrecipient agreement.

Five ESG Program Components

The table below compares the two types of eligible ESG clients and which of the five ESG funding components each client group may receive:

Component	Those who are Homeless	Those who are at risk of Homelessness
1. Street Outreach	X	
2. Emergency Shelter	X	
3. Homelessness Prevention		X
4. Rapid Re-housing	X	
5. Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)	X	X

Standards for Programs Components

1. **Street Outreach**

Eligible Participants: “Unsheltered” individuals and families, meaning those who qualify under paragraph (1) (i) of the definition of “homeless.”

Eligible Activities: Essential services to eligible participants provided on the street or in parks, abandoned buildings, bus stations, campgrounds, and in other such settings where unsheltered persons are staying. Staff salaries related to carrying out street outreach activities is also eligible.

Eligible Costs:

Standards for targeting and providing essential services related to Street Outreach include:

- Engagement
Activities to locate, identify, and build relationships with unsheltered homeless people for the purpose of providing immediate support, intervention, and connections with homeless assistance programs and/or mainstream social services and housing programs.
- Case Management
Assessing housing needs, and arranging/coordinating/monitoring the delivery of individualized services.
- Emergency Health Services
Outpatient treatment for urgent medical conditions provided by licensed medical professionals in community-based settings (e.g., streets, parks, and campgrounds) to eligible participants unwilling or unable to access emergency shelter or health care facility.
- Emergency Mental Health Services
Outpatient treatment for urgent mental health conditions provided by licensed professionals in community-based settings (e.g., streets, parks, and campgrounds).
- Transportation
Travel by outreach workers, social workers, medical professionals or other service providers during the provision of eligible street outreach services.
- Services to Special Populations
Address the special needs of homeless youth, victims of domestic violence and related crimes/threats, and/or people living with HIV/AIDS who are literally homeless.

2. **Emergency Shelter**

Eligible Participants are individuals and families who are homeless. ESG funds may be used to provide essential services to persons in emergency shelters, major renovation of an emergency shelter, conversion of a building into an emergency shelter, or shelter operating costs. Staff costs related to carrying out emergency shelter activities is also eligible.

Overview of eligible costs include:

- ◆ Essential Services
- ◆ Renovation
- ◆ Shelter Operations

A. Essential Services

Eligible costs to provide essential services to individuals and families who are in an emergency shelter are as follows:

- Case Management
- Life Skills Training
- Child Care
- Education Services
- Employment Assistance and Job Training
- Outpatient Health Services
- Legal Services
- Mental Health Services
- Substance Abuse Treatment Services
- Transportation
- Services for Special Populations

Note: Emergency Shelter agencies must include in their policies and procedures the process of admission, diversion, referral and discharge including standards regarding length of stay and safeguards to meet the safety and shelter needs of special populations and individuals, and families who have the highest barriers to housing and are likely to be homeless the longest.

B. Renovation and Conversion

Eligible costs include labor, materials, tools, and other costs for renovations. When ESG funds are used for renovations, other than major rehabilitation or conversion, the minimum period of use to be maintained as a shelter for homeless individuals and families is three (3) years. If the rehabilitation costs of an emergency shelter exceeds 75 percent of the value of the building before rehabilitation (major rehabilitation) or if the costs to convert a building into an emergency shelter exceeds seventy-five percent (75%) of the value of the building after the conversion, then the minimum period of use is 10 years. including soft costs, or conversion of a building to be used as an emergency shelter. The maximum funding allowed is **\$5,000**.

C. Shelter Operations

Eligible costs are the costs of maintenance necessary for the operation of an emergency shelter. In the case when no appropriate emergency shelter is available for a homeless family or individual, a hotel or motel voucher will also be considered eligible. Additional eligible shelter operation costs include the following:

- Maintenance (*including minor or routine repairs*)
- Food
- Insurance
- Rent
- Furnishings
- Security
- Supplies necessary for the operation of the emergency shelter

- Fuel, Utilities, or Equipment

3. **Rapid- Rehousing**

The purpose of Rapid Re-housing is to serve participants who meet the criteria under paragraph (1) of the “homeless” definition in 24 CFR Section 576.2 or who meet the criteria under paragraph (4) of the “homeless” definition and live in an emergency shelter or other place described in paragraph (1) of the “homeless” definition.

Sub-recipients must maintain standards to help homeless persons living on the streets or in an emergency shelter transition as quickly as possible into permanent housing, and then, to help such persons achieve stability in that housing.

Eligible participants are individuals and families literally homeless currently living in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation. Eligible activities include the following services:

- Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services
- Short- and Medium-Term Rental Assistance

4. **Homelessness Prevention**

The purpose of Homelessness Prevention is to prevent persons from becoming homeless in a shelter or an unsheltered situation. Funding may also be used to help such persons regain stability in their current housing or other permanent housing. Eligibility for services applies to individuals and families who are *at imminent risk, or at risk, of homelessness*, meaning those who qualify under paragraph (2) and (3) of the homeless definition or those who qualify as at risk of homelessness. Individuals and families must have an income at, or below, 30% of median family income for the area (AMI). Eligible activities include the following:

- Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services
- Short- and Medium-Term Rental Assistance

Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services

The following guidelines apply to both Rapid-Rehousing and Homelessness Prevention.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	SERVICES
Moving costs	Housing search & placement
Rent application fees	Housing Stability Case Management
Last month's rent	Mediation
Utility payments –up to 24 mos. of payments per program participant/including up to 6 mos. arrears per service	Credit repair
Security deposit –equal to no more than 2 months rent	Legal Services
Standard utility deposits	

Short- and Medium-Term Rental Assistance: Rapid Re-housing/Homelessness Prevention

<u>Types of Rental Assistance</u>	<u>Length of Assistance</u>
1. Short Term Rental Assistance	up to 3 Months
2. Medium Term Rental Assistance	4 to 24 Months
3. Payment of Rental Arrears	One-time payment for up to 6 months of arrears including late fees.

Payment of Rental Assistance and Lease Requirements 24 CFR Section 576.106

Rent Restrictions: Pursuant to 24 CFR Section 576.106 (d), rental assistance cannot be provided unless the rent **does not exceed** the Fair Market Rent established by HUD, as provided under 24 CFR Part 888, and complies with HUD’s standard of rent reasonableness as established by 24 CFR Section 982.507.

Rental Assistance Agreement: ESG recipients and subrecipients **must** enter into Rental Assistance Agreements with the property owner prior to the payment of any rental assistance on behalf of a client. The agreements must comply with the provisions of 24 CFR Section 576.106 (e).

Leases: Pursuant to 25 CFR Section 576.106 (g), each program participant receiving ESG-funded rental assistance **must** have a legally binding written lease with the property owner for the rental unit unless the ESG assistance is for arrears. Rental assistance may be tenant-based or project-based. For tenant-based rental assistance, both the rental assistance agreement and lease **must** conform to the requirements found at 24 CFR Section 576.106 (h). For project-based rental assistance, both the rental assistance agreement and lease **must** conform to the requirements found at 24 CFR Section 576.106 (i). **NOTE: for project-based rental assistance, the initial lease must have a term of one year.**

A. Performance Standards

The ESG grantee must describe the performance standards for evaluating ESG activities which must be developed in consultation with the Continuum of Care.

Based on standards and goals of the local Continuum of Care, Riverside County is proposing the following performance standards for the Emergency Solutions Grant:

Performance Measures for Homelessness Prevention

- a. A reduction in the number of homeless individuals and families seeking emergency shelter services.
- b. Expected Outcome: At least thirty-five percent (35%) of participants assisted will remain in permanent housing six (6) months after the last assistance was provided under ESG.

Performance Measures for Homeless Rapid Re-Housing

- a. A reduction in the reoccurrence of homelessness for individuals and families who exit the shelter system.
- b. Expected Outcome: At least thirty-five percent (35%) of participants assisted will remain in permanent housing six (6) months after the last assistance provided under ESG.

B. EVALUATION OF ELIGIBILITY

Standard Policies and Procedures for evaluating individuals' and families' eligibility for assistance under Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG).

Building on Established HPRP Policies and Procedures

The policies and procedures were originally established based on the provisions of HPRP assistance. The policies and procedures have been modified based upon the checklist of required elements set forth in 24 CFR Section 576.400 (e)(1) and (e)(3); 24 CFR Section 91.220 (l)(4)(vi), and in collaboration with CoC standards.

Centralized Pre-Screening and Assessment Available at Multiple Locations

The County of Riverside Continuum of Care (CoC) conducts a Coordinated Intake and Assessment System piloted through the 25 Cities Project, a partnership with HUD and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to eliminate homelessness among veterans by 2016 and chronic homelessness by 2020. The pilot in the Greater City of Riverside Area was implemented countywide during 2015.

Participating agencies are responsible for engaging chronically homeless individuals and families through the use of Housing Navigators and a standardized vulnerability assessment and intake process that provides referrals to a centralized housing system that places priority on those who are at highest risk with the most appropriate intervention rather than a "first come, first served" approach.

Individuals and families applying for ESG assistance must complete an eligibility pre-screening form. Pre-screening may be completed via phone, online, or at established locations, including emergency shelter locations. Individuals and families who meet established pre-screening requirements will be scheduled an appointment with a case manager for assessment and eligibility documentation.

Basic Eligibility Requirements

- Initial Consultation & Eligibility Determination: The applicant(s) **must** receive at least an initial consultation and eligibility assessment with a case manager or other authorized representative who can determine eligibility and appropriate type of assistance.
- ESG clients must meet one of the following definitions of homelessness:
 1. Literally homeless
 2. At imminent risk of homelessness
 3. Homeless under Federal Statutes

4. Fleeing/attempting to flee domestic violence

- Income: The household's total annual income must be below thirty percent (30%) of the median family income for the area (AMI)
- Housing Status: Case files must document the current housing status of the household at application. Housing status will be verified through third party verification whenever possible. Self-certification of housing status will be considered on a case by case basis.
- Riverside County Residency: All households receiving Homelessness Prevention or Rapid Re-housing assistance under ESG must be residents of Riverside County at time of application.
- Unidentifiable financial resources and/or support networks: In order to receive ESG rental financial assistance, applicants must also demonstrate the following:
 1. No appropriate subsequent housing options have been identified;
 2. The household lacks the financial resources to obtain immediate housing or remain in its existing housing; and
 3. The household lacks support networks needed to obtain immediate housing or remain in its existing housing.

C. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR PROGRAM COORDINATION

Policies and Procedures for coordination among emergency shelter providers, essential service providers, homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing assistance providers, other homeless assistance providers, and mainstream service and housing providers.

The ESG program requires coordination among participating agencies. All ESG subrecipients in Riverside County are experienced homeless providers with a demonstrated track record in fiscal management and the provision of housing and supportive services targeted to homeless households. Additionally, the project administration agreement with ESG subrecipients will require coordination among agencies receiving ESG funds to administer Emergency Shelter, essential services, Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing services, and related assistance, and access to mainstream services and housing providers for clients.

Participation in the Continuum of Care

ESG funded agencies have easy access to membership in the Continuum of Care. The Continuum of Care has over 100 member organizations including homeless service providers, veteran service representatives, churches, and government organizations. The Continuum of Care meets on a regular basis and shares information about services among participating agencies.

Required Client Information and Referrals

To further facilitate collaboration and information sharing, ESG funded agencies will be required to provide the following information and referrals to ESG program participants:

- 2-1-1 hotline for social services
- Social security benefits

- Cal-Works and other income security programs provided by the County of Riverside, Department of Public Social Services (DPSS)
- Cal-Fresh (formerly known as Food Stamps) assistance
- Low Income Energy Assistance Programs
- Affordable housing information
- Employment assistance and job training programs
- Health care and mental health services
- Services for victims of domestic violence
- Veteran services
- Specialized services such as legal services and credit counseling

D. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR DETERMINING ASSISTANCE AND PRIORITIZATION

Policies and Procedures for determining and prioritizing which eligible families and individuals will receive Homelessness Prevention assistance and which eligible families and individuals that will receive Rapid Re-housing assistance.

Once it is determined that the household meets the basic eligibility guidelines noted above, the household will be assessed for the appropriate form(s), level, and duration of financial assistance. The results of this assessment will be formalized in a Housing/Financial Assistance Plan that is signed by both the applicant and the case manager.

Assistance through Homelessness Prevention

Homelessness Prevention assistance will be targeted to households who are at risk of losing their present housing and becoming homeless. While there are many people who are housed and have a great need for rental assistance, not everyone will become homeless without assistance. A risk assessment will be used to assess the household's level of crisis and prioritize those who are at greatest risk of becoming homeless. The assessment tool will include vulnerability criteria including but not limited to; income, housing history, food security, childcare, health care, life skills, and other special needs. Due to the limited amount of funding, assistance will be provided on a first come, first served basis, if the applicant meets the eligibility and risk assessment criteria.*

Assistance through Re-housing

Homeless Rapid Re-housing assistance is intended for individuals or families who meet the homeless definition described in 42 USC 11302 of the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended by the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009.

While there are many homeless individuals and families in Riverside County at any given night, the Rapid Re-housing assistance will be prioritized for households who are residing in emergency shelters and on the streets. Due to the limited amount of funding, assistance will be provided on a first come, first served basis, if the applicant meets the eligibility and risk assessment criteria. *

*** Rapid Re-housing should prioritize people with more challenges, including those with no income, poor employment prospects, troubled rental histories, and criminal records. Providers should link participants with community resources that will help them achieve longer-term stability and well-being.**

E. DETERMINING SHARE OF RENT AND UTILITY COSTS

Standards for determining the share of rent and utilities costs that each program participant must pay, if any, while receiving Homelessness Prevention or Rapid Re-housing assistance.

Limitations on Assistance – Homelessness Prevention

Riverside County's ESG rental assistance is intended to stabilize individuals and families who have recently endured difficult financial circumstances that have led them into homelessness or who are at imminent risk of becoming homeless. For Homelessness Prevention assistance, the rental assistance consists of short term rental assistance (3 months); extended under certain circumstances to medium term rental assistance (for an additional 3 months). The total maximum length of assistance is twelve months (12) over a 3-year period. Client **must** be reassessed after every 90 day period and provided case management services on a monthly basis.

Not every individual or family in need of rental assistance is a candidate for ESG Homelessness Prevention or Rapid Re-housing assistance. ESG rental assistance is not a substitute for Section 8 rental assistance or a permanent rental subsidy, but rather a tool to help stabilize families or individuals who are at imminent risk of becoming homeless and lack any other resources to help them stabilize their housing situation. Rental assistance cannot be provided to a program participant who is already receiving rental assistance, or living in a housing unit receiving rental assistance or operating assistance through other federal, State, or local sources (24 CFR Part 576.106).

As a general rule, an individual or household should pay approximately 30% of their income towards rent. This requirement may be waived on a case-by-case basis for extreme circumstances. The ESG assistance will consist of the remaining portion of the rent, up to \$1,000 (excluding the clients' contribution towards the rent).

Clients are required to be reassessed at regular monthly intervals to monitor progress and levels of self-sufficiency. If a client requires assistance beyond the three month mark, the ESG rental subsidy will be reduced and the client will be required to pay a larger portion of the rent. Homelessness Prevention assistance will be based on number in household, fair market rent rate, and income to determine for a maximum one year over a 3 -year period.

Limitations on Assistance – Rapid Re-housing

Under Rapid Re-housing assistance, a client's share of rent should be based on the client's ability to pay during their path to housing stabilization, with a minimum \$25.00 client contribution. This requirement may be waived on a case-by-case basis for extreme circumstances. Clients receiving Rapid Re-housing assistance must be re-assessed, at a minimum every 90 days, and reviewed during monthly case management. The maximum length of Rapid Re-housing assistance will be one (1) year* during any 3- year period. The assistance should not exceed the Fair Market Rent amount based on client household, except for the first month of assistance if client requires assistance with other re-housing expenses such as rent deposits or utility deposits. Security deposit should not exceed two times the rent.

Standards for determining the share of rent and utilities costs that each program participant must pay, if any, will be based on the following guidelines:

- 100% of the cost of rent in rental assistance may be provided to program participants. However to maximize the number of households that can be served with Rapid Re-housing resources, it is expected that the level of need will be based on the goal of providing only what is necessary for each household to be stably housed for the long term;
- Rental assistance cannot be provided for a unit unless the rent for that unit is at or below the Fair Market Rent limit, established by HUD;
- The rent charged for a unit must be reasonable in relation to rents currently being charged for comparable units in the private unassisted market and must not be in excess of rents currently being charged by the owner for comparable unassisted units.

Note: Grant funds may be used for rental assistance for homeless individuals and families. Rental assistance cannot be provided to a program participant who is already receiving rental assistance, or living in a housing unit receiving rental assistance or operating assistance through other federal, State, or local sources (24 CFR Part 576.106).

Limitations on Assistance – All Clients

Due to the limited amount of funds available, the ESG assistance will not exceed Fair Market Rent per client per month in combined ESG assistance, including rent and utility payments.* Generally, clients should be responsible for paying their own utility costs while receiving ESG rental assistance, unless they are experiencing acute financial hardship or are at risk of losing their housing due to utility shut off. Clients seeking help with utilities only may be eligible for ESG assistance if it can be documented that they will lose their housing and become literally homeless if utility assistance is not provided; however, the household still must meet other ESG eligibility requirements.

F. DETERMINING LENGTH AND ONGOING NEED FOR RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Standards for determining how long a particular participant will be provided with rental assistance and whether the amount of that assistance will be adjusted over time.

ESG assistance consists of short term (up to 3 months), medium term (up to 6 months), and maximum term (up to 1 year) rental assistance to allow individuals or families who have recently encountered a financial crisis that has led them into homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness, to gain housing stabilization. Since the program consists of temporary assistance aiming at rapid stabilization of households, clients are required to contribute a portion of their income towards rent. Clients with no potential to earn income may not be suitable candidates for this type of assistance, unless other subsidies can be accessed after the ESG assistance expires.

Clients assisted under ESG Homelessness Prevention Assistance are eligible to receive the rental assistance for up to 3 months if they meet income eligibility of less than 30% of median family income for the area (AMI) during the 3 month period and comply with the case management requirements of the program. At the end of the third month, clients must be re-assessed to determine if the client's rental assistance needs to be extended for an additional 3-month period. If the ESG rental assistance is extended for an additional three (3) months, the ESG assistance will be reduced and/or adjusted over the remaining time.

Clients assisted under ESG Rapid Re-housing Assistance are eligible to receive rental and utility assistance for up to one-year if they meet income eligibility during the one-year period. Rapid Re-housing clients **must** receive monthly case management, be evaluated at regular intervals, and be re-

assessed every 90-days during the ESG assistance period. The ESG rental assistance should be reduced gradually and the client's portion of rent increased during the months of assistance.

G. DETERMINING NEED FOR HOUSING STABILIZATION AND RELOCATION SERVICES

Standards for determining the type, amount, and duration of housing stabilization and /or relocation services to provide a program participant, including the limits, if any, on Homelessness Prevention or Rapid Re-housing assistance that each program participant may receive, such as the maximum amount of assistance; maximum number of months the program participant receives assistance; or the maximum number of times the program participant may receive assistance.

Reasonableness Determination

EDA will set the maximum amount of assistance to be provided to Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing clients on an annual basis. EDA will also determine if the total benefit amount to be awarded to any one client is both reasonable and necessary.

Reporting – Centralized/Coordinated Assessment System

- The HEARTH Act makes HMIS participation a statutory requirement for ESG recipients and sub-recipients. EDA and the subrecipients work with the Continuum of Care to ensure the screening, assessment, and referral of program participants are consistent with the written standards.
- The recipient will ensure that data on all persons served and all activities assisted under ESG are entered into a community-wide HMIS in the area in which those persons and activities are located.
- Victim service providers cannot, and Legal Services Organizations may choose to not participate in HMIS. Providers that do not participate in HMIS must use a comparable database that produces unduplicated, aggregate reports instead.
- Eligible Cost include, but not limited to the following:
 - Hardware, Equipment and Software Costs
 - Staffing: Paying salaries for operating HMIS
 - Training and Overhead- Technical support, leasing space, and utilities for space used by HMIS staff

Comparable Database for Victim Services

If the sub-recipient is a victim services or a legal services provider that use a comparable database, it may use ESG funds to establish and operate a comparable database that collects client-level data over time and generates unduplicated aggregate reports based on the data. Information entered into a comparable database must not be entered directly into or provided to an HMIS.

Case Management

EDA has defined case management as a “collaborative” process that assesses, plans, implements, coordinates, monitors, and evaluates the options and services required to meet the client’s health and human service needs. It is characterized by advocacy, communication, and resource management and promotes quality and cost-effective interventions and outcomes. Case management focuses on housing stability and placement, with an emphasis on the arrangement, coordination, monitoring, and delivery of services related to housing needs and improving housing stability.

A meeting with a case manager is required in order to receive Rapid Re-housing assistance, although it is not necessarily the first step. Some communities might have a screening, intake, assessment, or other eligibility determination process that precedes the assignment to a case manager while other communities may have case managers performing the eligibility task. Regardless of the arrangement, the meeting with the case manager should be regarded not only as a program requirement, but also as an early opportunity to help a household improve its housing stability during and beyond the period of Rapid Re-housing assistance.

Transitional Housing and Rapid Re-housing

While transitional housing is technically eligible, HUD cautions recipients against using ESG Rapid Re-housing funds as a way of regularly exiting a person from transitional housing to permanent housing. It is recommended that Rapid Re-housing be used as a model for helping people move from the streets or shelter to permanent housing, not for people exiting transitional housing.

Additionally, transitional housing providers should have programs designed to successfully exit people and should not use Rapid Re-housing, another form of temporary assistance, as a regular part their program design. HUD recommends this be done on a case-by-case basis, so that it is not common practice, but is provided only when necessary to prevent the program participant from going back to the streets or emergency shelter. EDA established standards and determined transitional housing is not an effective use of funding and will not be utilized to house clients residing in transitional housing or transition to permanent housing.

NOTE: program participants would need to be assessed for and determined to be eligible for ESG Rapid Re-housing assistance, in accordance with the ESG eligibility and documentation requirements. (Homeless definition in 24 CFR Part 576.2) This includes a requirement that the assistance be necessary to help the program participant move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in housing. Note that such a household would have to be exited from the transitional housing program in HMIS and entered into the ESG program in HMIS.

Consultation Process

EDA and the ESG subrecipients will continuously consult with the Continuum of Care to discuss the County’s ESG allocation in ways that:

- Coordinate across regional entitlement jurisdictions by developing and utilizing standardized eligibility and assessment tools;
- Support federal and local goals for priority populations;

- Allow for variations in the program design that responds to the needs and resources of the jurisdiction
- Comply with eligibility and verification requirements (HMIS, housing status, homeless definitions, etc.)

The ESG program requires coordination among participating agencies. All ESG subrecipients in Riverside County are experienced homeless providers with a demonstrated track record in fiscal management and the provision of housing and supportive services targeted to homeless households. ESG funded agencies have easy access to membership in the Continuum of Care. The Continuum of Care has over 100 member organizations including homeless service providers, veteran service representatives, churches and government organizations. The Continuum of Care meets on a regular basis and shares information about services among participating agencies.

EDA also consulted with the Continuum of Care on the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness to ensure the alignment of proposed ESG activities as they relate to the goals and strategies outlined in the plan. This joint effort has worked successfully in the past and EDA will continue to work closely with DPSS who serves as the lead agency and grantee for the County's Continuum of Care (CoC) program.

ESG Homeless Definitions

Refer to reference information located at the following:

https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HEARTH_HomelessDefinition_FinalRule.pdf

Notice of Public Comment Period
 Substantial Amendment of the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan
 and the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan

The County of Riverside hereby notifies concerned members of the public, pursuant to *24 CFR 91.105*, *24 CFR 91.505*, and the County's Citizens Participation Plan, of its intent to amend the 2015-2016 One-Year Action Plan of the 2014-2019 Consolidated Plan by the following actions:

Valley Restart Shelter - Bus Ticket Home	\$ 10,000	Add New CDBG Project
Ripley Wastewater System Improvements	\$ 125,000	Add New CDBG Project
Mesa Verde Water System Improvements	\$ 21,000	Add New CDBG Project
Desert Center Wastewater System Improvements	\$ 33,000	Add New CDBG Project
Good Hope Community Road Improvements	\$ 390,000	Add New CDBG Project
Coachella Valley Rescue Mission Rapid Re-Housing project	\$ 50,000	Add New ESG Project
Path of Life Ministries Rapid Re-Housing Project	\$ 67,228	Add New ESG Project

Approve and adopt the Emergency Solutions Grant Written Standards and amend the 2014-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan to incorporate the new ESG Written Standards

The Economic Development Agency has verified that the proposed activities are eligible uses that meet National Objectives under the CDBG program.

A determination regarding the proposed amendments to the 2015-2016 One Year Action Plan and the 2014-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan has been scheduled on or about March 29, 2016, Riverside County Board of Supervisor's meeting, located at 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California.

Anyone interested in providing comments or obtaining additional information regarding this Consolidated Plan Substantial Amendment may do so by contacting the Economic Development Agency at: 3403 10th Street, Suite 400, Riverside, CA, 92501, (951) 955-8916, or Fax (951) 955-9505. Both oral and written comments for all of the above items must be received no later than 4:00 PM on March 25, 2016.

Input and comments can also be received by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, CPD Division, 611 West Sixth Street, Suite 800, Los Angeles, CA 90017. The telephone number is (213) 894-8000. Comments or objections received after March 25, 2016, will not be considered by HUD.

THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

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I am a citizen of the United States. I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to or interested in the above entitled matter. I am an authorized representative of THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE, a newspaper in general circulation, printed and published daily in the County of Riverside, and which newspaper has been adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Riverside, State of California, under date of April 25, 1952, Case Number 54446, under date of March 29, 1957, Case Number 65673, under date of August 25, 1995, Case Number 267864, and under date of September 16, 2013, Case Number RIC 1309013; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been published in said newspaper in accordance with the instructions of the person(s) requesting publication, and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to wit:

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Accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act are available upon request. Requests must be made at least 72 hours prior to meeting. Later requests will be accommodated to the extent feasible. Please call the Clerk of the Board office at (951) 955-1069, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

2/23