

IN CONSIDERATION OF:

RESOLUTION NO. 21-5189, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER TO EXECUTE A SHORT-TERM INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE SHARING AGREEMENT WITH MULTNOMAH, WASHINGTON, AND CLACKAMAS COUNTIES TO IMPLEMENT THE METRO SUPPORTIVE HOUSING SERVICES PROGRAM

Date: June 22, 2021
Department: Planning & Development
Meeting Date: June 29, 2021

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Presenter: Patricia Rojas, Regional
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Length: 10 min.

ISSUE STATEMENT

On May 19, 2020, greater Portland voters approved Measure 26-210, establishing Metro's regional supportive housing services program to address the region's homelessness crisis, and help individuals and families find and keep safe, stable, affordable housing across the region.

This program brings a groundbreaking level of regional coordination and scale to address this regionwide challenge between Metro and Local Implementation Partners. Each of the Metro area's three counties developed a Local Implementation Plan through inclusive engagement with community and local practitioners, analysis of local conditions and needs, and developing a framework for planned investments. As required for the counties to receive funding from the regional measure, these plans have now been approved by the Metro Council per the recommendation of the Regional Oversight Committee.

Local Implementation Plans will be incorporated into intergovernmental agreements with each Local Implementation Partner, along with agreements concerning other matters of program implementation, transfer of funds, and ongoing oversight, accountability and management.

It is critical for these agreements to provide a pathway to successful partnership and program implementation over the next 10 years. As final negotiations for longer-term agreements advance, a short-term revenue sharing agreement will allow Supportive Housing Services measure funding distribution to begin to counties, and program investments to begin on July 1, 2021.

ACTIONS REQUESTED

- Approve Resolution No. 21-5189 to authorize the execution of a short-term intergovernmental revenue sharing agreement (Exhibit A to the resolution) with the three Local implementation partners for the supportive housing services measure.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

As described in Metro Code Chapter 11.01.100, "Implementation Intergovernmental Agreements with each Local Implementation Partner will specify how Supportive Housing Services tax collections will be released. Agreements will include specifications for annual program budgets, financial reporting, and practices for reserving funds, and redistribution of funds if a jurisdiction fails to comply with the Agreement."

The Metro Council has an inherent interest, as do our county partners, in ensuring these agreements fully advance the requirements of the measure, expectations of voters, and the outcomes communities seek over the ten-year implementation of the measure.

At the same time, Council and our county partners seek to have program investments begin as soon as possible, following extensive community and stakeholder engagement, analysis, review and approval of Local Implementation Plans by the Metro Council.

A short-term revenue-sharing agreement, built on the framework of these Local Implementation Plans, will allow program investments to launch on time – advancing the interests and needs of Council, county partners, and the community – while allowing for negotiations to continue on full intergovernmental agreements that will govern program administration over the long term. Staff will brief council on negotiations this summer and bring to council for a vote in late summer or early fall.

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

Through the adoption of this Resolution, the Metro Council authorizes the Metro COO and staff to execute a short-term intergovernmental revenue sharing agreement with the three counties, in effect allowing transfer of program funds and the beginning of services as described in each county's Local Implementation Plan.

If the Metro Council does not adopt the resolution, it may direct staff to work with county counterparts to resolve any issue(s) of concern. This will lead to a delay in program launch.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Council adopt the Resolution.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Approval of this resolution represents a significant milestone for launching the Supportive Housing Services program, after more than 13 months of dedicated work following the passage of the measure in May 2020.

During these months, the Metro Council, staff and partners have, among other activities and accomplishments:

- convened a Stakeholder Advisory Table in summer 2020, to provide guidance on key outcomes and the program work plan;
- convened a Tax Advisory Table to advise on the collection of the business and personal income taxes that fund the program;
- entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Portland to collect these taxes, and begun tax collection;
- completed and adopted a Regional Work Plan and Metro Code to guide implementation of the program.
- chartered and seated a Regional Oversight Committee in full partnership with local implementation partners, and convened seven meetings of the committee;
- reviewed three Local Implementation Plans and worked with the Regional Oversight Committee to review them for Metro Council approval, following many hours of inclusive engagement and analysis on the part of the Local Implementation Partners;
- collaborated to develop key matters of regional implementation including a regional long-term rent assistance program, outcomes and data collection, and programming.

Our partners are ready to proceed, and Metro is prepared to work collaboratively with them to deliver services desperately needed by people experiencing or at risk of homelessness throughout the region; the broader outcomes desired by communities, particularly BIPOC communities and those on the front lines of this crisis; and the accountability the region's voters demand and deserve. Adoption of the resolution allows program launch to proceed expediently and with accountability, as longer-term implementation agreements are finalized.

BACKGROUND

Negotiation of intergovernmental agreements has proceeded in earnest since April 2021, with several steps of review among program and legal staff at each of the local implementation partners and Metro. The approval of Local Implementation Plans was a key milestone in this process, as these plans form the backbone of program implementation.

The short-term revenue sharing agreements include the following agreement areas between Metro and Local Implementation Partners, including but not limited to:

- Term limit of October 1
- Obligations for Metro and counties
- Allocation percentage by county
- Terms for spending tax revenue
- Termination

Upon agreement to the terms by program and legal staff at Metro and each of the Local Implementation Partners, the short-term revenue sharing agreement was finalized for consideration by each partner's governing body (county boards of commissioners) and the Metro Council.

ATTACHMENTS

- Resolutions No. 21-5189

- Exhibit A: Short-Term Intergovernmental Revenue Sharing Agreement between Metro and the three Local Implementation Partners