



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

Approved by:



Arnaldo Rodriguez, City Manager

Council Meeting of: August 5, 2020

Agenda Number: B-8

SUBJECT:

Letter of support for Senate Bill 795 Building Affordable and Inclusive Communities

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Minute Order Approving to Support SB 795 Building Affordable and Inclusive Communities (as amended 6/18/2020)

SUMMARY:

The purpose of the support letter for SB 795 stems from the bill's intention create a sustainable state funding source, with the purpose of addressing the homelessness and affordable housing crisis, and jump start local economies. This measure would largely invest in existing programs to quickly get local government the funding they need to address and prevent homelessness and spur the construction of affordable housing. SB 795 would also create two new programs administered by the Office of Business and Economic Development Office (GoBiz) to help local governments with economic recovery and natural disaster preparedness

DISCUSSION:

Specifically, SB 795 would allocate \$2 billion annually for five years to the following programs:

- Multifamily Housing Program - \$500 million
- Infill Incentive Grant Program - \$300 million
- Local Housing Trust Fund Matching Grant Program - \$200 million
- Cal Home Program - \$75 million
- Joe Serna, Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant Fund - \$75 million
- Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program - \$665 million
- Climate, Sea Level, and Natural Disaster Program - \$100 million
- Community Economic Development Program - \$95 million

The Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program has previously allocated a total of \$2,954,437.15 to the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC), whom serves residents of City

of Madera. An additional \$411,434.26 were allocated to the County of Madera in the past, as the local Madera County Behavioral Health Department receives these grant funds. These dollars help provide much needed services that augment to the coordinated entry system of the community to meet the goal of making homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring. The 2019 Point-In-Time Count, conducted by the FMCoC, identified 260 unsheltered people experiencing homelessness in Madera, and 96 sheltered people experiencing homelessness.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

If passed, SB 795 may provide substantial relief to City of Madera residents through grant funds made available through the various programs.

CONSISTENCY WITH THE VISION MADERA 2025 PLAN:

The information contained herein is not addressed by the Vision Madera 2025 plan, nor is the information in conflict with that plan.

ALTERNATIVES:

As an alternative, the Council may elect to reject submittal of support letter for SB 795.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Support Letter for SB 795



August 5, 2020

The Honorable David Chiu, Chair
Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development
State Capitol Building, Room 4112
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 795 (Beall) Building Affordable and Inclusive Communities
Notice of SUPPORT (As amended 6/18/2020)**

Dear Assembly Member Chiu,

The COVID-19 virus and the accompanying public health crisis has created significant new challenges and uncertain fiscal impacts that will last for months and likely years to come. Even with these concerns, we cannot lose focus on addressing the housing affordability and homelessness crisis gripping many communities in California.

The City of Madera is pleased to **support SB 795 (Beall)**, which would create a sustainable state funding source, with the purpose of addressing the homelessness and affordable housing crisis, and jump starting local economies. This measure would largely invest in existing programs to quickly get local government the funding they need to address and prevent homelessness and spur the construction of affordable housing. SB 795 would also create two new programs administered by the Office of Business and Economic Development Office (GoBiz) to help local governments with economic recovery and natural disaster preparedness.

Specifically, SB 795 would allocate \$2 billion annually for five years to the following programs:

- Multifamily Housing Program - \$500 million
- Infill Incentive Grant Program - \$300 million
- Local Housing Trust Fund Matching Grant Program - \$200 million
- Cal Home Program - \$75 million
- Joe Serna, Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant Fund - \$75 million
- Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program - \$665 million
- Climate, Sea Level, and Natural Disaster Program - \$100 million
- Community Economic Development Program - \$95 million

For example, City of Madera will benefit from this bill as the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program has previously allocated a total of \$2,954,437.15 to the Fresno Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC), whom serves residents of City of Madera. An additional \$411,434.26 were allocated to the County of Madera, as the local Madera County Behavioral Health Department receives these grant funds. These dollars help provide much needed services that augment to the coordinated entry system of the community to meet the goal of making homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring. The 2019 Point-In-Time Count, conducted by the FMCoC, identified 260 unsheltered people experiencing homelessness in Madera, and 96 sheltered people experiencing homelessness.

The City of Madera believes the State must invest its limited dollars, in order to build affordable housing, provide essential infrastructure, and create opportunities in underserved communities.

For these reasons, the City of Madera **supports** SB 795.

Sincerely,

Andrew J. Medellin
Mayor
City of Madera

cc. The Honorable Jim Beall
California State Senate - Senator Anna Caballero
California State Assembly – Assembly Member Frank E. Bigelow
Rajveer Rakkar, Regional Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities
League of California Cities