

;
;
; 06/20/17 1:27 PM
;

>> I'D LIKE THE CALL THIS MEETING TO ORDER, THIS IS A HEARING ON DOCKET NUMBER 0801, AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD AND DEVELOPMENT TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND FEDERAL FY-17 CONTINUUM OF CARE GRANTS, NOT TO EXCEED \$20 MILLION FROM HUD TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE SERVICES AND HOUSING TO THE HOMELESS. THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE. AS THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS, MENTAL HEALTH AND COVERRY, I'D LIKE TO WELCOME YOU.

THIS HEARING IS BEING RECORDED AND BROADCAST LIVE ON COMCAST 8 AND RCN 82 AS WELL AS STREAMED ON THE INTERNET LIVE AND FOR FURTHER BROADCASTS.

WE ASK YOU PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONES AND ANYTHING ELSE THAT MAKES NOISE.

IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE SO, PLEASE SIGN IN.

THERE'S A SIGN-IN SHEET AT THE OUTSIDE DOOR.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO TESTIFY, CHECK THE BOX.

I DON'T THINK WE'LL HAVE PUBLIC TESTIMONY TODAY.

WE'D LIKE TO SAY, I'M SO HAPPY TO BE HERE AND HONORED TO SIT ON THE CITY OF BOSTON'S CONTINUUM OF CARE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL AS CHART OF THE COMMITTEE.

AND KNOW FIRST HAND THE AMAZING WORK THAT SHEILA, YOUR TEAM DOES ON THIS COUNCIL AND ON THIS COC AND LOOKING FORWARD TO THINGS ACCENTING THE GRANT.

WE'LL SENT IT TO THE CHIEF.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO PRODUCE YOURSELF.

>> THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. AS WE'VE REALLY WORKED VERY HARD

TO HOUSE MANY OF OUR VULNERABLE AND HOMELESS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON, YOU'VE BEEN A GREAT PARTNER THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS AND HAVE ROLLED UP YOUR SLEEVES. I WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT BEFORE WE BEGIN.

SO I'M JOINED HERE WITH MY COLLEAGUES, RICK WILSON, OUR DIRECTOR FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE, KATIE CAHILL, AND BOB CAHILL OUR DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR POLICY AND RESEARCH.

ELIZABETH RETIRED FRIDAY AND KATIE CAHILL WILL BE OVERSEEING OUR APPLICATION TO HUD THIS FUNDING ROUND.

WITH THAT, I'D LIKE TO HAND IT OVER TO KATIE.

>> GOOD AFTERNOON.

FOR THE RECORD, I'M KATIE CAHILL HOLLOWAY.

AS SHEILA MENTIONED, I MOVED INTO THE ACTING DEPUTY ROLE FOR THE SUPPORTIVE HOUSING DIVISION AT DND.

AND I'D LIKE TO ECHO THE THANKS THAT SHEILA JUST GAVE FOR YOUR UNWAIVERING SUPPORT OF OUR EFFORTS TO HOUSE OUR MOST VULNERABLE CITIZENS.

GREAT TO SEE YOU AND YOUR STAFF AT THE LAST SUCCESSFUL EVENT.

THE OTHER THING I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR IS FOR SCHEDULING THIS HEARING SO EXPEDITIOUSLY.

SO THE ORDER BEFORE US AUTHORIZES DND ON BEHALF OF THE CITY TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND FISCAL YEAR 2017 FUNDING FOR THE HUD COMPETITION.

THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2017 IS ACTUALLY THE CITY OF BOSTON'S FISCAL YEAR 2018 FOR CLARIFICATION.

THESE IMPORTANT FUNDS ARE CRITICAL FOR THE HOME SAYS SYSTEM.

HUD ALLOCATES THROUGH THE HOMELESS CONTINUUM OF CARE FUNDING COMPETITION.

ACCORDING TO THE HUD REQUIREMENTS, THE BOSTON COC SUBMITTED THEIR REGISTRATION ON

MAY 1, 2017.

THE FILING OF THE REGISTRATION MAKES THE BOSTON COC ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE IN THE COMPETITION WHEN IT OPENS.

THE UP TO \$28 MILLION ON THE ORDER TO EXPAND THE FUNDS IS AN ESTIMATE BASED ON HUD'S REGISTRATION NOTICE.

THE CITY OF BOSTON AWARDED \$2 MILLION IN THE LAST COMPETITION AND THE FUNDS ARE BEING USED TO FUND 34 GRANTS THAT SERVE OVER 1,800 PARTICIPANTS AT ANY ONE TIME IN PERMANENT HOUSING.

THE AMOUNT INCLUDES \$21 MILLION IN ELIGIBLE RENEWAL PROJECTS, 2.9 MILLION IN NEW PERMANENT HOUSING PROJECTS AND \$500 OCTOBER IN COC PLANNING COSTS. THE CITY WILL SEEK CONTINUED FUNDING FOR THEM ON AN ANNUAL BASIS.

IN ADDITION TO THIS AMOUNT, THE CITY MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR COC PLANNING FUNDS TO FULLY IMPLEMENT THE RAPID AND TRANSITION TO HOUSING REQUIREMENTS ACROSS THE HOMELESS ASSISTANCE SYSTEM AND FOR NEW PERMANENT HOUSING BONUS FUNDS. AMOUNTS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE ON HUD'S OPENING OF THE 2017 COC COMPETITION.

HUD MAY MAKE FAIR MARKET RENT ADJUSTMENTS.

SO WE'RE SEEKING A VOTE AMOUNT THAT WILL COVER ALL OF THE RENEWALS, PLUS ANY NEW OR INCREASED FUNDING THAT HUD MAY AWARD.

IN SUMMARY, WE SEE FUNDING FOR TRADITIONAL HOUSING AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR OTHER PROGRAMS. THE CURRENT FUNDING SUPPORTS NEARLY 1,800 HOMELESS AND HOUSING AND 1,100 CHRONICALLY HOMELESS.

THE FUNDS ARE FROM HUD.

AS I MENTIONED, WE SUBMITTED OUR REGISTRATION WHICH MAKES US ELIGIBLE TO SUBMIT AND APPLICATION.

HUD HAS YET TO PUBLISH IT.

I ANTICIPATE IT WILL BE RELEASED
BE I THE END OF THE MONTH.
THE NOTE FOR MAY MAY CONTAIN AN
OPPORTUNITY TO FOR COMMUNITIES
TO APPLY FOR BONUS FUNDING
PROGRAM.

SUCH FUNDS MAY BE USED FOR
HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS AND
FAMILIES.

DND WILL USE THE SOURCES FOR THE
OVERALL APPLICATION SUBMITTED TO
HUD.

HUD ALSO INDICATED THAT THEY MAY
OFFER PLANNING AS PART OF THE
COMPETITION AND WE WILL APPLY
FOR THE FUNDS FOR USE ON THE
REDESIGN OF THE HOMELESS SYSTEM,
INCLUDING EFFORTS ABOUT TRIAGE,
ROLL-OUT OF THE ACCESS SYSTEM,
COORDINATION OF RESOURCES,
ET CETERA.

FINALLY, THE RENEWAL ALLOCATION
THAT I MENTIONED EARLIER BY
PROJECT TYPE.

WE FUND 94% OF THAT TOTAL GRANT
AMOUNT GOES TO SUPPORT PERMANENT
HOUSING AND LEASING ACTIVITIES.
1% GOES TO TRANSITIONAL HOUSING.
2% GOES TO HOMELESS MANAGEMENT
INFORMATION SYSTEMS WHICH TRACKS
CLIENT LEVEL DATA SYSTEMS.

1% SUPPORTS COORDINATED ACCESS
SYSTEMS WHICH MATCHES CLIENTS TO
SERVICE RESOURCES AND 2% IS
TOWARDS COC PLANNING EFFORTS.
THIS CONCLUDES MY OVERVIEW OF
THE COC PROGRAM COMPETITION AND
ITS IMPORTANT TO BOSTON'S
HOMELESS SYSTEM AND THE CLIENTS
WE SERVE.

I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR
TIME AND ATTENTION.

WHERE TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE, WE
REQUESTIONS ACTION ON THIS
MATTER A TRACTOR TRAILER JUNE
28th COUNCIL MEETING AND WELCOME
ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE ON
THIS MATTER.

THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

ANYONE HAVE ANYTHING ELSE TO
ADD?

BOB?

VERY GOOD.

SO YOU ANTICIPATE THE
COMPETITION TO OPEN THE END OF
THIS MONTH?
>> YES.
>> HOW LONG IS IT OPEN FOR?
>> GENERALLY OPEN FOR ABOUT 75
DAYS.
LAST YEAR IF IT'S ANY
INDICATION, IT OPENED ON JUNE
29th.
APPLICATIONS ARE DUE SEPTEMBER
13th.
>> SO WHY ARE WE REFERRING TO IT
AS FISCAL YEAR 17?
>> TOTALLY CONFUSING.
SO HUD GOES BY THEIR FISCAL YEAR
IS BASICALLY A YEAR BEHIND THE
CITY OF BOSTON'S.
SO WHEN THEY TALK ABOUT COC
COMPETITION, THEY GO BY FISCAL
YEAR.
THE FISCAL YEAR IS THE YEAR IN
WHICH YOU A FLY FOR THE FUNDING
AND 18 IS WHEN THE FUNDING WILL
START TO --
>> OKAY.
>> YEAH.
>> I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY
THEY'RE A YEAR BEHIND.
I GUESS --
>> THE FISCAL YEAR STARTED ON
OCTOBER 1.
RUNS THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30th.
>> OKAY.
ALL RIGHT.
I CONSISTENT KNOW IF JANUARY
29th IS A -- IF THEY OPENED IT
BEFORE OUR NEW FISCAL YEAR
STARTS.
IT WOULD BE NICE IF THEY WERE ON
THE SAME PAGE.
>> IT WOULD BE NICE.
A LOT LET CONFUSING.
>> AND YOU'RE ANTICIPATING THAT
WE'LL RECEIVE THIS GRANT?
THIS FUNDING?
>> I AM.
WE REALLY HAVE TO GO IN AND SORT
OF PROVE WHAT WE'RE DOING IS
WORKING.
ALL OF THE DETAILS IN TERMS OF
WHAT WE'RE GOING TO BE EVALUATED
ON ARE IN THE NO-FAULT.
I THINK WE HAVE GOOD INDICATION

HUD HAS MOVED TOWARDS LOOKING AT SYSTEM PERFORMANCE MEASURES. HOW QUICKLY ARE WE MOVING PEOPLE THROUGH OUR SYSTEM, WHAT RATES OF SUCCESS ARE WE HAVING AND KEEPING THEM THERE ONCE THEY ARE.

WE'VE GOTTEN, YOU KNOW, REALLY SOPHISTICATED WITH THE DATA THAT WE'RE ABLE TO COLLECT.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO REVIEW INDICATES THAT WE'LL BE VERY COMPETITIVE IN THIS ROUND ONCE AGAIN.

>> CAN YOU TALK ABOUT THOSE NUMBERS?

WHAT ARE THE RATES OF MOVING PEOPLE INTO PERMANENT HOUSING AND ALL OF THAT?

>> SURE.

THE RATES IN TERMS OF PEOPLE COMING OUT OF SHELTER IS OBVIOUSLY IMPEDED BY THE FACT THAT WE DON'T HAVE A LOT OF VACANCY.

REALLY SUCCESSFUL IN TERMS OF RETAINING PEOPLE IN PERMANENT HOUSING IN PERMANENT HOUSING. SO WE'RE SORT OF DEPENDENT ON APPLYING NEW FUNDS TO CREATE ADDITIONAL UNITS AND BEING VERY CAREFUL IN HOW WE TARGET THE TURNOVER IN OUR EXISTING PORTFOLIO.

WE HAVE A NUMBER OF EFFORTS KIND OF SUPPORTING THOSE EFFORTS.

WE HAVE A MOVING ON PILOT WHERE OUR PARTNERS ARE EVALUATING CLIENTS THAT HAVE BEEN IN HOUSING, BEEN STABLE IN HOUSING FOR A LONG, LONG TEAM.

DOING AN ASSESSMENT OF THEIR SKILLS TO SEE WHETHER OR NOT THEY'RE READY TO MOVE ON TO MORE INDEPENDENT AFFORDABLE HOUSING. SO, YOU KNOW, WE'RE ALWAYS SORT OF SCRAMBLING TO MAKE THE CASE TO ADD TO OUR PERMANENT HOUSING PORTFOLIO.

WE OBVIOUSLY HAVE DONE A BIG EFFORT AROUND INFUSING RESOURCES INTO OUR RAPID REHOUSING SYSTEM. SO THAT, YOU KNOW, WILL PROVE TO YIELD, I THINK MANY, MANY PEOPLE

INTO HOUSING AND SHELTERS.
>> THE HOUSING EFFORTS, DO WE --
I SEE YOU BROKEN UP SOME OF THE
WORK BY NEIGHBORHOOD.
>> YES.
>> CAN YOU TALK ABOUT THE
SHELTERS WE WORK WITH IN
PARTICULAR?
SOME OF THE WORK HAPPENING THERE
WITH ACCESSING SOME OF THE
PERMANENT HOUSING.
>> ACCESSING RESOURCES.
SO WE'RE IN THE PROCESS OF
REALLY CONSTRUCTING SORT OF THE
SYSTEMWIDE RESPONSE.
SO SPECIFICALLY WHAT WE'RE
WORKING ON NOW AROUND RAPID
REHOUSING, THE PARTNERSHIP THAT
WE'RE IN THE PROCESS OF CREATING
INVOLVES OBVIOUSLY THE MAJOR
CITY SHELTERS AS WELL AS PINE
STREET, ST. FRANCIS HOUSE AND
ALSO FOLDING SEASON FRANCIS INTO
THAT AS A DAY SHELTER.
THE VISION IS NO MATTER WHAT
SHELTER SOMEBODY PRESENTS AT,
THEY'LL HAVE THE SAME MENU OF
OPPORTUNITY AS ANYBODY IN ANY
OTHER SHELTER.
BUT, YOU KNOW, IT'S HARD WORK.
IT'S TRANSFORMATIVE WORK.
I THINK THAT WE HAVE A
FOUNDATION FOR GOOD
PARTNERSHIPS.
A BIG MEETING TOMORROW REALLY TO
KICKOFF THE FORMAL ROLL-OUT OF
THE HOUSING WORKS PARTNERSHIP,
WHICH IS OUR RAPID REHOUSING
EFFORT.
>> THAT'S GREAT.
IN OUR APPLICATION, ARE THERE
ANY INDICATORS THAT MAY PUTS IN
A WEAK POSITION FOR THIS
COMPETITION?
>> I THINK THE ONE THING THAT
MAY HURT US WOULD BE SORT OF THE
LENGTH OF STAY IN OUR SHELTERS.
AND I THINK THAT REALLY HAS TO
DO WHAT I TALKED ABOUT EARLIER,
THE SCARCITY OF APPROPRIATE
RESOURCES OF PEOPLE COMING OUT
OF SHELTER.
WHAT I DO HOPE IN THE PAST YEAR,
WE'VE HAD SEVERAL OF OUR RAPID

REHOUSING EFFORTS COME ONLINE.
I'M HOPING THAT, YOU KNOW, THE
DATA THAT WE HAVE FROM THAT IS
WHAT HUD WILL REEVALUATE.
GOING FORWARD WE'LL SEE, YOU
KNOW, INCREASING SUCCESS IN THAT
REGARD JUST AS RAPID REHOUSING
COMES TO SCALE.
>> SO HUD WANTS TO SEE SHORT
LENGTHS OF STAY?
>> YES.
>> WHAT'S OUR AVERAGE LENGTH OF
STAY NOW?
>> I WANT TO SAY IT'S AROUND 180
DAYS.
>> WHAT IS THE IDEA?
>> HUD'S VISION FOR IDEAL IS
SOMETHING THAT THEY CALL HIGH
PERFORMING COMMUNITY.
A LENGTH OF STAY OF 30 DAYS OR
LESS.
CAN SAY THAT NOBODY HAS HIT THAT
YESTERDAY.
>> THE LENGTH OF STAY IN THE
LAST YEAR HAS REALLY GREATLY
IMPROVED.
AS YOU KNOW, WE'VE WORKED VERY
HARD TO HOUSE OUR CHRONIC.
SO BY GETTING THEM HOUSED, THE
LENGTH OF STAY IS SHORTENED.
PINE STREET WAS IN THE OTHER
DAY.
I CAN GET YOU THE INFORMATION,
COUNSELOR.
IT'S FASCINATING.
THE LENGTH OF STATE AT PINE
STREET WAS GREATLY REDUCED.
PEOPLE COMING IN, STAYING SHORT
PERIODS OF TIME AND GETTING OUT.
THE CHRONICS GETTING HOUSED.
I'LL GET YOU THE NUMBERS.
THEY'RE VERY ENCOURAGING.
>> I'D SAY SOME OF THE WORK
AROUND THE TRIAGING OF THE FRONT
DOOR PROBABLY REALLY HELPS.
>> SO PEOPLE DON'T COME IN AT
ALL OR IN FOR A COUPLE NIGHTS
AND LEAVE.
BUT THE POINT IN TIME COUNT, I
THINK FROM LAST YEAR COMPARED TO
THE YEAR BEFORE, WE HAD A
SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION.
WE CAN GET YOU THAT.
>> IT IS FASCINATING TO KNOW A

LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT THE
DETAILS.
DO YOU WANT TO SHARE -- IT'S
AWKWARD TO SAY THEY HAVE ENJOYED
THIS WORK BUT THEY HAVE ENJOYED
PARTICIPATING IN THE SUCCESS OF
THIS WORK.
WE REALLY WISH THIS WORK WASN'T
NECESSARY.
WE DO TALK ABOUT SOME OF THE
RESULTS FROM THE SURGE FROM LAST
WEEK.
>> AND FOR ANYONE AT HOME
VIEWING, PERHAPS JUST DESCRIBE
VERY QUICKLY IN A QUICK FEW
CAPTIONS --
>> WHAT A HOUSING SURGE IS.
A HOUSING SURGE IS REALLY
ONE-STOP-SHOPPING FOR TARGETED
GUESTS TO COME IN.
THE VISION IS THAT THEY'RE GOING
TO WALK OUT AT THE END OF THE
DAY WITH THE HOUSING OFF, IN A
SERVICE PACKAGE TO ALLOW THEM TO
BE SUCCESSFUL AND STABLE IN
PERMANENT HOUSING.
SO WE'VE HOSTED A NUMBER OF
THESE.
I'VE LOST COST.
EIGHT?
>> EIGHT.
>> THE WORD HAS GOTTEN OUT WHEN
WE FIRST STARTED, WE EXPECTED A
RETURN RATE OF 20 TO 30%.
LAST WEEK'S SURGE, IT WAS UP AT
50%.
THE WORD IS GETTING OUT.
THIS IS FOR REAL.
PEOPLE ARE WALKING OUT WITH
OFFERS OF HOUSING.
LAST WEEK WE HAD 63 PEOPLE
ACTUALLY ATTEND THE SURGE.
WE HAD FROM OUR GREAT PARTNER,
THE BOSTON HOUSING AUTHORITY, 44
AUTHORS OF HARD UNITS.
WE WALKED OUT WITH THEIR
APARTMENT ADDRESS.
WE HAD FIVE ADDITIONAL BHA
OFFERS THAT WERE SORT OF PENDING
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION.
WE ANTICIPATE THAT THOSE OFFERS
WILL COME THROUGH WITH HARD
UNITS.
SO THAT'S JUST AN AMAZING AMOUNT

OUT OF 63 TO HAVE 49 WALK OUT OF THERE.

IT'S PHENOMENAL.

WE ALSO HAD AN ADDITIONAL NINE FOLKS WALK OUT WITH KIND OF VOUCHERS FROM MBHP.

SO SORT OF OPERATES ON THE SECTION EIGHT PROGRAM.

SO OUT OF 63, THAT'S AN AMAZING RATE OF PEOPLE WALKING OUT WITH HOUSING.

WE HAD A FEW PEOPLE THAT A SURGE CAN BE OVERWHELMING.

WE HAD SOME PEOPLE THAT WALKED OUT.

WE HAD ONE GENTLEMEN THAT WAS ABLE TO BE PAIRED WITH A SERVICE PACKAGE.

HE WAS GOING TO NEXT DAY TO LOOK AT A UNIT AT THE ST. FRANCIS HOUSE.

>> DO YOU WANT TO MENTION SOME OF THE CITY DEPARTMENTS THAT ARE ON BOARD AND SOME OF THE NONPROFITS?

>> SURE.

ABSOLUTELY TAKES A COMMUNITY.

WE HAVE PARTNERSHIPS LIKE ACROSS THE SPECTRUM OF GOVERNMENT.

WE HAVE FEDERAL PARTNERS.

OBVIOUSLY THE STATE OEHHS, THE OFFICE OF ELDERLY AFFAIRS AT THE STATE WAS CRITICAL IN TERMS OF HELPING US NAVIGATE THE SERVICE PACKAGE SIDE.

MOST OF THE SERVICES ARE THROUGH DIFFERENT MEDICATE FUNDED PROGRAMS.

THE DETAIL AND THE WORK THAT GOES INTO SORT OF ASSESSING EACH CLIENT PRIOR TO SURGE FIGURING OUT WHAT THEY'RE ELIGIBLE IS HUGE.

IN TERMS OF CITY DEPARTMENTS, CITY COUNCIL HAS BEEN VERY SUPPORTIVE.

THE BOSTON HOUSING AUTHORITY, WE COULD THOUGHT DO IT WITHOUT THEM.

OBVIOUSLY OUR HOST WAS SO GENEROUS AND TAKING OVER THEIR BUILDING FOR 13 HOURS.

SO IT'S A VERY, VERY GRATIFYING

BUT EFFECTIVE EVENT AT THE SAME
TIME.
>> GREAT.
ANYTHING ELSE TO ADD?
>> I JUST WANTED TO ADD THAT THE
BOSTON PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
IS ALSO FRONT AND CENTER.
OUR OWN ELDERLY COMMISSIONER WAS
THERE.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
IT'S A LOT OF DEPARTMENTS.
VERY SUCCESSFUL.
IF I WANT TO ADD ONE THING FOR
FOLKS WATCHING THIS, I SAY HOW
HARD IS IT TO OFFER HOUSING AND
SERVICES TO SOMEONE?
IF THEY'RE HOMELESS?
THOSE ARE FOLKS THAT ARE
HOMELESS FOR LONG PERIODS OF
TIME A LOT OF OBSTACLES TO
GETTING HOUSED.
BEEN HOMELESS FOR A LONG PERIOD
OF TIME.
AS YOU KNOW, SOMETIMES WE'RE NOT
ALWAYS TRUSTING TOWARDS
GOVERNMENT.
SO IT'S GREAT THAT THEY OVERCAME
THAT AND WAS ABLE TO GET HOUSED.
>> CONGRATULATIONS.
>> THANK YOU.
>> ANYTHING ELSE TO ADD?
WE'LL CERTAINLY RECOMMEND THIS
TO THE COUNCIL FOR PASSAGE AT
TOMORROW'S HEARING.
THANK YOU.
ADJOURNED.