

City of San Diego
San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC)

COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program

Housing Authority: Item 1

City Council: Item 331

March 1, 2022



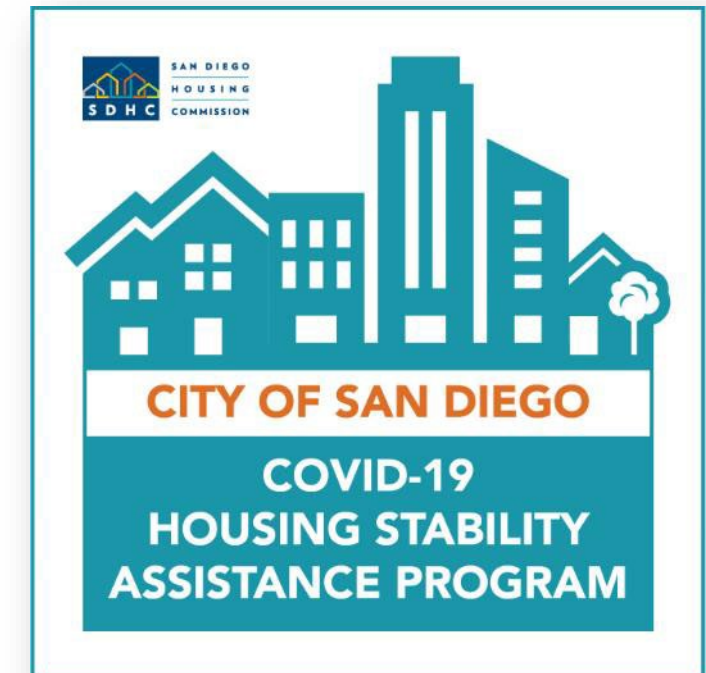
SAN DIEGO
HOUSING
COMMISSION



City of San Diego: COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program

Overview

- February 22, 2021: San Diego City Council authorized the program.
- March 15, 2021: Online application launched at covidassistance.sdhc.org
 - Application available in English, Spanish and Vietnamese
- The program helps pay rent and utilities for City of San Diego households with low income that experience financial hardship due to or during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- The program also helps pay past-due internet service expenses.



City of San Diego: COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program

Payments

- As of February 23, 2022:
 - Payments Disbursed: \$174,622,532.23
 - Households Assisted: 15,863
- All of the funding available to help San Diegans through the program has been fully obligated to assist households with low income
 - Including applicants who have preliminary approval, subject to review and confirmation of their documentation.
- Total obligations for assistance payments exceed the funding to help qualifying households.



The COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program helped Eric keep his rental home and avoid homelessness.



City of San Diego: COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program

Applications

Applications

- 42,214 applications submitted as of 10 a.m. February 23, 2022
 - Includes 11,671 individuals who updated information on previously submitted applications and/or are requesting additional assistance
 - 75.4 percent with income up to 30 percent of San Diego's Area Median Income (AMI)
 - 18.5 percent with income from 31 percent to 50 percent of AMI
 - 5.4 percent with income from 51 percent to 80 percent of AMI
 - 0.8 percent with income above 81 percent of AMI
- 37,105 additional applications started and pending completion

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Funding

- The U.S. Department of the Treasury developed a process for the reallocation of federal emergency rental assistance funds.
 - Additional funds made available to high-performing agencies based on demonstrated need
- October 29, 2021: SDHC submitted a formal request to the Treasury Department for \$115 million in reallocated funds based on an analysis of the program's potential upcoming need.
- January 7, 2022: The Treasury Department announced it awarded \$8,308,615 reallocated from other jurisdictions across the country to the City of San Diego for the COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program.
 - Third-highest amount nationwide among local jurisdictions that were awarded reallocated funds

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Funding

- SDHC continues to work with Mayor Todd Gloria's office on efforts to obtain additional funding.
 - U.S. Treasury Department published notice allowing jurisdictions to reapply for additional reallocation of funds.
 - January 18, 2022: SDHC submitted a formal request for \$96 million based on an analysis of the program's projected need.
 - January 2022: SDHC staff met with State Assemblymembers and State Senators regarding the need for additional funding for the program.



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SDHC Staff Recommendations

That Housing Authority of the City of San Diego take the following actions:

- 1) Authorize SDHC to amend its Fiscal Year 2022 budget in the amount of \$8,308,615 in federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERA1) funds, which the U.S. Department of the Treasury allocated directly to the City of San Diego, to be administered by SDHC to provide rental assistance and/or utility assistance to households with low income in the City of San Diego that experience financial hardship due to or during the COVID-19 pandemic and to cover administrative expenses in accordance with federal and state funding requirements.
- 2) Authorize SDHC's President & CEO, or designee, to modify the COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program, if necessary, but only if and to the extent that such changes comply with the terms of the executed amended Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SDHC and the City of San Diego for the oversight and administration of the COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program and are necessary to fulfill federal and state funding requirements. SDHC staff will notify the Housing Authority and the City Attorney's Office about any subsequent amendments or modifications to the Housing Stability Assistance Program and other required documents, including amendments to any documents.



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SDHC Staff Recommendations (Continued)

- 3) Authorize SDHC's President & CEO, or designee, to substitute approved funding sources with any other available funds as deemed appropriate, contingent upon budget availability, and further authorize the President & CEO, or designee, to take such actions as are necessary, convenient and/or appropriate to implement this approval and delegation of authority by SDHC upon advice of the General Counsel.
- 4) Authorize the Housing Commission's President & CEO, or designee, to execute all necessary documents and instruments that are necessary and/or appropriate to implement these approvals, in a form and format approved by General Counsel, and to take such actions necessary and/or appropriate to implement these approvals, provided that a copy of the documents, signed as to form by General Counsel, are submitted to each Housing Commissioner in advance of approval for the designee to sign.



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City Staff Requested Actions

- Authorize the Chief Financial Officer or designee to accept, appropriate and expend an amount of \$8,308,615 in federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERA 1) funds, allocated by the U.S. Department of the Treasury directly to the City of San Diego, to SDHC for the City's COVID-19 Housing Stability Assistance Program (HSAP), contingent upon the funds being secured for HSAP.



Questions & Comments