SDHC: Meeting the Challenges of an Unexpected Year and Implementing Innovative Homelessness Solutions

Diego, SDHC, the Regional Task Force on the Homeless (RTFH), the San Diego Convention and homeless service providers. Operation Shelter to Home is a collaboration among the City of San Diego, the County of San Diego and homeless service providers. The award-winning initiative, known as Operation Shelter to Home, launched on April 1, 2020, during COVID-19. The program marks a new approach to conducting homelessness outreach in the City of San Diego and addresses gaps in the existing system, while leveraging and enhancing outreach resources citywide.

The State of California’s Project Homekey program awarded $37.7 million to support SDHC’s proposal to purchase two hotels to create 332 permanent housing units with supportive services for San Diegans experiencing homelessness received unanimous City Council approval. SDHC’s proposal to purchase two hotels to create 332 permanent housing units with supportive services for San Diegans experiencing homelessness received unanimous City Council approval.

City Council Approval of Hotel Purchases Requested

During COVID-19 precautions due to COVID-19, the first “Homelessness Program for Engaged Educational Resources” (PEER) course began October 13, 2020, with in-person learning by live video conference because of safety precautions. The program marks a new approach for reaching out to San Diegans experiencing homelessness to help connect them to services needed for programs and services that help San Diegans experiencing homelessness.

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The State of California’s Project Homekey program awarded $37.7 million to support SDHC’s purchase of these hotels.

Supportive Housing

Supportive services for San Diegans experiencing homelessness received unanimous City Council vote.

The San Diego City Council approved SDHC’s recommendation for a new approach for homeless outreach in the City of San Diego. The program is a first-of-its-kind collaboration between SDHC and San Diego City College providing Homelessness Workforce Training.

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In addition, SDHC continues to implement innovative solutions for affordable housing and homelessness.

My thanks to Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer, San Diego City Council President Georgette Gómez, City Councilmembers Monica Montgomery Steppe and Chris Ward, and People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) San Diego for a news conference about the new program the day before the City Council vote.

The San Diego City Council approved SDHC’s recommendation for a new approach for homelessness outreach in the City of San Diego.

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