



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
April 26, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
Submitted by: Peter Radu, Assistant to the City Manager
Subject: Acceptance of Funding from University of California, Berkeley for Operations of the Rodeway Inn

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept a \$2,200,000 donation from the University of California, Berkeley to support 6 months of operations at the Rodeway Inn intended for the noncongregate sheltering of people experiencing homelessness at People's Park.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Approving this recommendation will result in \$2,200,000 in funding being deposited and expensed from the One-Time Grant: No Capital Expenditures Fund (Fund 336). These funds will be expended solely on the lease and the contract with Abode Services (both of which are before the Council on the April 26, 2022 agenda) to operate an interim non-congregate shelter program at the Rodeway Inn. These funds will be appropriated as part of the Second Amendment to the FY 2022 Annual Appropriations Ordinance.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

On December 29, staff partnered with the University of California, Berkeley to submit an application to the State of California's Encampment Resolution Funding grant program for \$4.7M to operate the Rodeway Inn as a noncongregate interim shelter option for one year for individuals currently living in People's Park. In the grant application, the City and University offered local match funds to extend the operations at the Rodeway to 18 months, which provides more time to appropriately serve and rehouse those individuals who utilize the program. To accomplish this, the University has offered to cover the increase in cost for operating 43 rooms for an additional 6 months with a donation of \$2,200,000 for this purpose.

BACKGROUND

On December 29, 2021, City staff partnered with the University of California, Berkeley to submit an application to the State of California's Encampment Resolution Funding grant for \$4.7M to cover 1 year of operations at the Rodeway to serve the people currently living without shelter in People's Park. In February 2022, the City was awarded this

entire amount in ERF funds, and on March 8, the Council authorized the acceptance of the Encampment Resolution Funding grant funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no environmental nor climate impacts associated with this recommendation.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Supporting homeless people living in People's Park and elsewhere by providing them rooms at the Rodeway Inn as well as services to help transition to permanent housing will be possible through accepting this donation.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Alternate city funding to operate the Rodeway for 6 months could be considered.

CONTACT PERSON

Peter Radu, Assistant to the City Manager, 510 981-7045

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

ACCEPTING FUNDING FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY FOR OPERATING INTERIM SHELTER
AT THE RODEWAY INN

WHEREAS, on October 29, 2021, the State of California released a Request for Applications for the Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) Program, a Statewide, competitive \$47.5M funding opportunity to further the State's understanding of best practices to compassionately resolve encampments by assisting their residents into safe and stable pathways to housing; and

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2021, the City Council affirmed its support of the development of People's Park into affordable housing, including permanent supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness, by unanimously voting to commit \$14.4M in funding to help close the financing at this development; and

WHEREAS, on December 29, 2021, staff partnered with the University of California, Berkeley to submit a grant application to the ERF requesting \$4,708,015 to fund an interim housing program at the Rodeway Inn on University Avenue in Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, staff propose the use of the Rodeway Inn, which is currently being used by Alameda County as interim housing for people experiencing homelessness, as noncongregate interim housing for those individuals currently residing in encampments in People's Park, in anticipation of the development of the site into affordable and student housing; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager was notified early, on February 24, 2022 that the City's ERF application will be funded at the full amount, supporting one year of operations and services for the shelter program at the Rodeway; and

WHEREAS, the City's ERF grant promised a local funding match that would be sufficient to extend the program at the Rodeway from one year to 18 months, at a cost differential of \$2,200,000; and

WHEREAS, the University of California, Berkeley has offered to fund this cost differential in full.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley authorizes the City Manager to accept and receive a donation from the University of California, Berkeley, for an amount of \$2,200,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these funds are to be spent solely for the purpose of extending the services contract with Abode Services and the lease with the owners of the Rodeway Inn for 6 months, to a total of 18 months for both.

