July 18, 2016

DRAFT MTW ANNUAL PLAN AMENDMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017 NOW AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE

The Housing Authority of the County of Santa Clara (HACSC) plans to amend one of the proposed Moving to Work (MTW) activities included in the fiscal year (FY) 2017 MTW Annual Plan and to add one additional activity. These changes, if approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), will provide HACSC with increased administrative flexibility and increased housing options for its clients.

Proposed Activity 2017-4: Setting Payment Standards above 110 Percent of HUD Fair Market Rents (originally proposed as Activity 2017-1). HACSC is requesting the flexibility to set its countywide payment standards up to a maximum of 130 percent of the Fair Market Rent (FMR), without HUD approval. This activity will give HACSC participants the ability to be more competitive in the high priced and volatile Santa Clara County rental market. When HACSC first proposed this activity in its draft FY2017 MTW Plan, submitted to HUD on April 11 of this year, it did not set a maximum cap on how high the payment standard could be set. HUD requested that HACSC provide a maximum cap and re-propose the activity, allowing an additional 30-day period for the public to review and respond.

Proposed Activity 2017-5: Housing Program Temporary Operating Fund. In addition to its primary form of housing assistance, the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program, HACSC administers several other small housing assistance programs (serving less than 300 households combined), targeted to chronically homeless, disabled or extremely-low income individuals. HUD funds these programs by means of annual renewal grants or contracts and funding for these programs can be occasionally delayed pending grant and contract execution with HUD. HACSC is requesting an MTW activity to allow it to use its MTW reserve funds as a no-interest advance to temporarily cover the operating costs of these programs in cases where HUD funding for these programs is not received in full, is delayed or the use of MTW funds is necessary to cover other urgent needs of these programs. The MTW funds spent on these programs would be reimbursed once HUD releases the grant or contract funds.

The Draft FY2017 MTW Annual Plan Amendment will be available for review at the following location from July 18, 2016, through August 17, 2016:

Housing Authority of the County of Santa Clara
A public hearing on the draft plan amendment will be held on Tuesday, August 2, 2016, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at this same location.

The draft plan amendment will also be available on HACSC’s website at here beginning July 18, 2016.

Written comments from the public may also be submitted by August 17, 2016, via email or U.S. mail, as follows:

Email: MTWPlan@hacsc.org  
or  
Leif Christiansen, Housing Programs Department  
Housing Authority of the County of Santa Clara  
505 W. Julian Street  
San Jose, CA  95110

The proposed amendment to the draft FY2017 MTW Annual Plan will be presented to the HACSC Board of Commissioners for approval on August 23, 2016, and will be submitted to HUD for final approval shortly thereafter.

In accordance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Housing Authority will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities. Please call (408) 275-8770 at least three days before the public hearing if you require special accommodations. TDD/TTY users call 408-993-3041. The Housing Authority of the County of Santa Clara is an Equal Housing Opportunity provider. This location is wheelchair accessible.

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