

COUNTY OF NEVADA HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

950 Maidu Ave. Nevada City, California 95959 Agency Director Ryan Gruver

Telephone (530) 265-1627 Fax (530) 265-2295

Department Directors Phebe Bell, MSW, Behavioral Health Jill Blake, Public Health Mike Dent, MPA, Child Support Services / Collections / Housing & Community Services Division Rachel Roos, Social Services

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE:	October 27, 2020
TO:	Board of Supervisors
FROM:	Mike Dent, Director of Housing and Community Services
SUBJECT:	Resolution authorizing submittal of an application to the California State Department of Housing and Community Development's HomeKey Program.

<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>: Approve the attached Resolution.

<u>FUNDING</u>: Home Key funds are authorized through the 2020 California State budget and are derived from \$550 million in Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) and \$50 million in State General Fund. There are no General Fund dollars required as match for this application.

BACKGROUND: On July 16, 2020, the California Department of Housing and Community Development released a Notice of Funding Availability called HomeKey. Administered by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), HomeKey funds totaling \$600 million are being made available to local public entities, including cities, counties, or other local public entities, including housing authorities or federally recognized tribal governments within California, to purchase and rehabilitate housing, including hotels, motels, vacant apartment buildings, and other buildings and convert them into interim and/or permanent, long-term housing.

The County has submitted an application for up to \$5,900,000 in HomeKey grant funds, which must be authorized by this Board. Homekey builds on the success of Project Roomkey, a statewide effort to provide non-congregant shelter to people experiencing homelessness as a means to promote public health guidelines around social distancing, isolation and hygiene. Nevada County implemented a Project Room- Key operation and is leveraging relationships built with hotel operators and other community-based providers to take advantage of the HomeKey funding opportunity to expand interim and permanent housing options. Homekey represents the next phase in the state's response to protecting Californians experiencing homelessness who are at high risk for serious illness and are impacted by COVID-19. If awarded, this funding will be used to acquire a non-congregant site, perform any required rehabilitation of the site and will provide up to two years of operating funds to manage and staff the site. This Board authorized and directed County staff to negotiate for purchase of a Home Key site and those negotiations are underway.

Due to expedited timelines associated with this funding program any funds awarded for capital expenditures must be spent by December 30, 2020, while any funds awarded for capitalized operating subsidies must be spent by June 30, 2022.

Item Initiated and Approved by:

Mike Dent, Director of Child Support, Housing and Community Services